



Cook is

over

Sierra

Leone

By Fran Abrams AND ANDREW GRICE

ROBIN COOK'S most senior official will face severe criticism next week from an official inquiry into the arms-to-Sierra Leone affair. The independent The Foreign Secretary will be rebuked for failings in his department, but will be cleared

of knowing a British firm was shipping arms in breach of a

A report from the Commons Select Committee on Foreign

Affairs, to be published next

Tuesday, will be more hard

hitting than Sir Thomas Legg's

investigation, ordered by Mr.

Cook, which reported last July.

Secretary at the Foreign Office

and Head of the Diplomatic Ser-

vice, will take the brunt of the

report's most damaging find-

ings. His officials held meetings

with representatives from

Sandline, the British firm of

mercenaries that shipped arms

Mr Cook will all be criticised for

withholding information and

witnesses from the select com-

mittee. Its inquiry was refused

permission to interview Sit

David Spedding, the head of

MI6, and met lierce resistance

from the Foreign Office over

access to official dispatches.

Sir David gave evidence in-

stead to the Commons Intelli-

gence and Security Committee

However, one committee

source said Sir John was ua-

likely to face dismissal as a

result of the report, "There are

The company, Sir John and

to Sierra Leone.

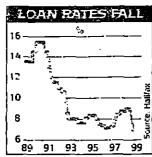
in private.

Sir John Kerr, Permanen:

UN embargo.

rebuked

Mortgage rates tumble to lowest level for 33 years



BY DIANE COYLE and ANDREW GRICE

THE COST of home loans fell to its lowest level for more than 30 years yesterday after the Bank of England announced a surprise half-point reduction in interest rates, to 5.5 per cent.

The Bank's swift moves to lower interest rates, with five cuts in five months, will allow the Chancellor to use next month's Budget to present a reasonably upbeat outlook for the economy.

Mortgage lenders were swift to follow the Bank's move. The Halifax. Britain's biggest mortgage lender, cut its rate within minutes by 0.5 per cent to 6.95 per cent, bringing it down to its lowest level since 1966. The typical monthly payment on a £100.000 interest-only mortgage has fallen from a peak of £723 last summer to £582. The Nationwide, the biggest mutual, cut its standard variable rate by the same amount, to 6.45 per cent.

Yesterday's announcement was seen by Treasury insiders those inside and outside the Labour Party who feared that the Bank's monetary committee would sacrifice growth and jobs for the sake of lower inflation.

Although Labour MPs were worried that the Bank's move reflected its concern about the economy: cabinet ministers are increasingly confident that Britain will avoid recession and that the Government will reap political benefit from the sharp fall in rates.

One minister said that Gordon Brown now had a "unique opportunity" to emerge as a Labour chancellor who had steered the economy success-



Business cycle in the City. Yesterday's rates move will allow the Chancellor to use next month's Budget to present a reasonably upbeat outlook

Brian Harris

fully through difficult waters. Tony Blair said yesterday: "What we have been concerned to do, both by getting rid of the huge budget deficit and the programme for independence of the Bank of England, is to make sure we go into this difficult situation with stability in place." The fact that interest rates were now at such a low level "gives us a much better chance to come through any dif-

ficulties we have and to emerge far stronger for the future".

Business, unions and the City welcomed the announcement. But borrowing costs need to fall lower still, according to many in industry. "The Bank has probably avoided a fullblown recession, but the economy is still in a fragile state." said Ian Peters, deputy director-general of the British Chambers of Commerce.

The latest move was widely seen as a vindication of Mr Brown's decision to give the Bank of England responsibility for hitting the inflation target. We are seeing the real benefit of an independent Bank of England," said Steven Bell, an

economist at Deutsche Bank. However, the Tories said the bigger-than-expected rate cut Government's forecasts for

thinks the economy is in a lot more trouble than Gordon Brown complacently predicts," Francis Maude, the shadow

Chancellor, said.

Ulster beatings put

Graham Mackenzie, director-general of the Engineering Employers' Federation, said the decision had come much too late for his industry. "The adverse difshowed that no one believed the ferential between UK and Euro-

growth. "The Bank clearly sustainable," he said Britain has the highest interest rates among the world's leading industrial countries. European rates are expected to fall from their cur-

ed States' are 4.75 per cent. In its statement, the Bank said uncertain international prospects and subdued costs made the half-point reduction necessary to keep inflation near pean interest rates is not its 2.5 per cent target. The

rent 3 per cent, while the Unit-

Bank is expected to report next week that inflation pressures have diminished. Bank's surprise, page 17

criticisms all the way along the line. That's the difference between our report and the Legg report. We saw faults at almost every level. I doubt if Robin Cook will exactly enjoy the re-Outlook, page 19 port," the source said.

Symphony of jargon scares concert-goers

YOU SIT down in the concert BY DAVID LISTER hall for a performance of Dvorak's Ceech Suite Op 39 and glance at the programme for guidance. There is, it explains. "a teatured cor anglais enriching and bucolicizing the sound world". Now that's clear - on with the show.

Research by the Association of British Orchestras and Royal Society of Arts into concert programmes has found the age of jargon is not dead. And that note for the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment at the Royal Festival Hall is far from unique in making the casual concert-goer scared stiff of classical music

In case anyone had not heard Debussy's La Mer, the programme at the Philharmonia's performance reassured: "Orientally pentatonic or ar-Sently chromatic, these wind-Journ melodies arch and sigh

Arts News Editor

in repetitively lapping undulations." That may have been Greek to half the audience but it had the advantage of brevity. The same cannot be said for a note for Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 5. In a sentence just short of 70 words it explained: "The most disturbing aspect of the allegro con anima is not the sinister character of the first subject introduced by the clarinet and bassoon over the stealth of the strings: it is more disturbing that the second-subject melody, which enters molto piu tranquillo in D major on violins choking for breath on the first beat of every bar, is never allowed to fulfil its expressive potential.

Margaret Levin, marketing director of the Corn Exchange in Cambridge, agrees that too

often programme notes are written in an "erudite and inaccessible style". It is time, she says in the report, for programme writers to avoid less common musical terms used without any explanation. They should also stop referring to similarities with other pieces. which she calls "a form of musical name-dropping or oneupmanship". And, lastly, they should avoid detailed analysis of movements in terms of entries, key changes, and so on. These, she says, "turn programme notes into a musical orienteering course".

Audiences are also cottoning on to another programme writing trick. They told the researchers that they are fed up with blatant promotion of the artist. It has not gone unnoticed that these are often written by the agent of the soloist or the BY DAVID MCKITTRICK Ireland Correspondent

THE BRITISH and Irish governments were last night struggling to steer the Irish peace process through one of its most precarious phases, as political and paramilitary pressure combined to increase instability.

London and Dublin are facing worrying signs that the ceasefires of both the IRA and the Ulster Volunteer Force, one of the largest of the lovalist groupings, are fraying. "Punishment" beatings continue apace, splinter groups on both sides appear to represent a growing danger and a court case in Ireland has given the credibility of the process a hard

A political firestorm has developed over the decision of the prosecution to drop charges of murder against four men

INSIDE ■ IRA 'fixer' freed

by Appeal Court A month's torture and beatings

■ Donald Macintyre

Review, page 3

accused of the 1996 IRA killing of Irish detective Jerry McCabe. The prosecution agreed instead to accept guilty pleas to the lesser charge of manslaughter. One of Dublin's main daily

newspapers expressed "dis-

may bafflement and outrage

at the move. In the north, the IRA's admission that some of its guns had been taken by defectors from the Real IRA, the splinter

group responsible for the Omagh bombing, has placed a question-mark over the stabil-

ity of the organisation.

This threat was underlined last night in a Channel 4 interview with former prisoner Brendan McClenaghan, who says he supports Republican Sinn Fein, which is regarded as the political wing of another splinter group, Continuity IRA.

Asked if he could imagine the Continuity IRA setting off bombs in London, he said: "Nothing has changed much to suggest to me that it isn't a possibility that something like that

could happen again." There are also reports that the UVF has smuggled in a new consignment of weapons. At the same time, splinter groups styling themselves "Red Hand Defenders" and "Orange Volunteers" have been carrying out petrol-bomb attacks on Catholic homes.



ASD ADSSECTION

Suburbs in danger Britain's suburbs face a downhill slide and could become slums

Documentary 'faked' A C4 documentary contained take scenes Home P5

Clintons' privacy plea The Clintons failed in an attempt to kept Chelsea out of a tabloid magazine Foreign P13

Hussein 'critical' Ailing King Hussein was returning to Jordan Foreign P14

Croatian Silvio Maric Sport P30

RAC windfall cut

RAC shareholders face

cut in windfall from sale

of motoring services

Magpies' signing

Newcastle paid ≤3m for

Business P17

NSDEETHEREVIEW

Norman Fowler Yes. Opposition is hard work. It's time the Tories just got on with it

Deborah Orr You can't plug holes in a family with tax breaks

Mark Stee! Evangelism: It's enough to make a hardened atheist cry 'Hallelujah!'

Buzz buzz The killer bees from down under Science P9



Attacks at highest level for decade

BY KIM SENGUPTA AND Paul Lashmar

THE 42 punishment attacks the Royal Ulster Constabulary says have taken place this year represent the highest number recorded for a decade in the province.

In one attack, masked men who smashed their way into Noel Diver's home and broke his legs with hurley sticks realised almost immediately they had got the wrong man. Shrugging off their mistake, they went next door to Michael Brennan, their intended target, and broke both his arms. It was just another example of the wave of punishment beatings and shootings which is piling pressure on the peace process.

Kneecappings and beatings have been part of Ulster's recent history but they have become with impasse over the decommissioning of arms, part ence to stop the attacks reof the fault-line of the Good Friday Agreement. Critics of the the capacity to stop them, they agreement see the issue as an example of how the paramiliviolence and are therefore in breach of the agreement.

equivocable about who is responsible: "I have no doubt both from intelligence and the streets with knowledge of these ganised by organisations; this it is not the activity of individuals. This activity is engaged by organisations who say they are in a cessation of military operations. The IRA, UVF and UDA these organisations have been involved in barbarity."

The political parties with connections to the paramilitaries try to deny involvement. A Sinn Fein spokesman said that not only was Sinn Fein not involved in punishment attacks, it had no knowledge of IRA in-



Sir Ronnie Flanagan: The attacks are organised

RUC statistics and the pressure group Families Against Intimidation and Terror.

David Ervine, of the Progressive Unionist Party, which has links with the loyalist Ulster Volunteer Force, when asked why he had not used his influsponded: "Do you think if I had would not already be stopped?

Sir Ronnie has maintained taries have kept on the path of the paramilitaries carry out the beatings and shooting to maintain "social control" in The RUC Chief Constable, their areas while putting out the Sir Ronnie Flanagan, is un- excuse that there is a "policing vacuum".

pattern of activity that this is or- attacks say the dynamics are much more complicated. Unpalatable as it may seem, they say the paramilitaries are in the vast majority of cases responding to the wishes of the communities in their heartland for rough and ready justice. And for various reasons a "policing vacuum has indeed

been created." It is not easy to disentangle what lies behind the attacks. With few notable exceptions, the victims are unwilling to speak publicly about their experience. While most attacks appear to be sanctioned by the

loyalist and nationalist para are the result of personal criminal vendettas. A small proportion of the sanctioned attacks are for disciplinary offences against wayward mem-bers of the paramilitary groups, but the great majority are against those accused of antisocial behaviour, ranging from joy-riding to burglary to drug-dealing to sexual offences.

Police and social service sources say there are discernible differences between punishment attacks in nationalist and loyalist areas. In the former they tend to be more structured, while in the latter they are more disorganised. Also in the lovalist areas there are vastly more beatings and shootings connected with feuds over drug- dealing.

Most of the targets are young men and the scale of the brutality of the punishment depends on the severity of the of-

But they can "go wrong" and recent cases of this have included that of Andrew Peden, whose bloody stumps, due to a shotgun blast in a loyalist kneecapping which went wrong, have been extensively publicised and have caused widespread public revulsion.

Sir Ronnie said there is evidence that the punishment squads are shooting lower down in the hands and ankles "This is conscious decision to do it in a less debilitating way."

The news that Amnesty International is to send a delegation to Northern Ireland to look at the issue of punishment attacks, as part of a broad investigation into human-rights issues, has been widely welcomed here.

But according to Sir Ronnie they can be stopped immediately. "If the IRA, UVF and UDA as organisations decided they should stop, it will stop."

LIGHTING UP



Republican bomb team's fixer freed on extradition technicality

THE LAST republican prisoner beld in a British jail was freed BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE yesterday after a court decided that his conviction nine years ago of conspiracy to cause explosions was unlawful:

Nicholas Mullen, 50, was convicted in 1990 of being a key member of an IRA bomb-making factory in south London. He was widely described as one of the terrorists "top fixers"

But yesterday the Court of bombs. Appeal decided that while there was no impropriety in his trial. the way in which he was extrahis subsequent conviction

Lord Justice Rose said the court was allowing the appeal because of the "highly unusual circumstances" of the case. He insisted that there was no criticism of the trial judge or

jury, and no challenge to the propriety of the trial's outcome. At that trial, Mr Mullen was described as a key member of a terrorist cell that was planning a mainland bombing campaign. He was said to have rented a series of properties, including a flat in Clapham, which were to be used to make the

The trial heard that he was involved in a plot to fire mortar handwriting, of potential mortar targets were found.

used tactics similar to those used in the Frederick Forsyth novel The Day of the Jackal, utilising the Public Records Office to find birth certificates

of people who had died which be safe it must be lawful - and back door today - I am just he could then use to apply for if it results from a trial which

Mr Mullen was traced in it can hardly be regarded as 1988 as a result of documents found by police at the Clapham flat. The day before they raided the flat - where police found detonators, timing devices and 106lb of Semtex - he fled to Zimbabwe with his daughter and -girlfriend.

The Court of Appeal yesterday decided that the way in bridge, the son of an RAF elecwhich he was extradited from trician from Ireland and an bombs at the Houses of Par- Africa was unlawful. The come, as it should, from Zimbabwe's chief immigration The court heard that he officer but rather from the UK or Zimhabwean secret service. said Lord Justice Rose, As a result the subsequent convic-

He said: "For a conviction to

tion had to be quashed.

passports and driving licences. should never have taken place safe. "The British authorities initiated and subsequently assisted in and procured the deportation of Mullen by unlawful

> means in circumstances in which there were specific extradition facilities between this country and Zimbabwe." Mr Mullen was born in Cam-

and graduated from Middlesex Polytechnic with a BA in social

In 1990 the court was told that Mr Mullen was recruited by the IRA at the age of 15.

the front door rather than the

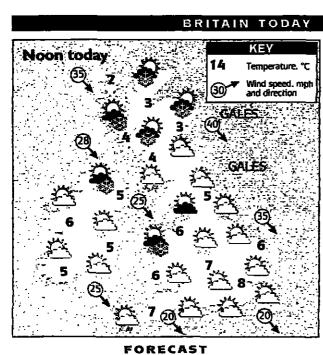
sorry it has taken so long," said Mr Mullen. A spokesman for the Northern Ireland Office said yester-

day that Mr Mullen was not eligible for release under the terms of the Good Friday Agreement as he had been held in a British prison - HMP Frankland. Durham - and not a jail in Northern Ireland.

Andrew Hunter, the Conservative MP for Basingstoke. who has visited Mr Mullen in iail. said that the decision was

"I have argued for a long time that the British and Zimbabwean authorities acted improperly and unlawfully when they seized Mullen in Harare... and forcefully escorted him to "I am glad to be going out of England where he was arrest-

PUNISHMENTS BY PARAMILITARIES Loyalist 106 141 1995 79 175 1996 151 1997 104 124 1998 120 Source: Royal Ulster Constabulary



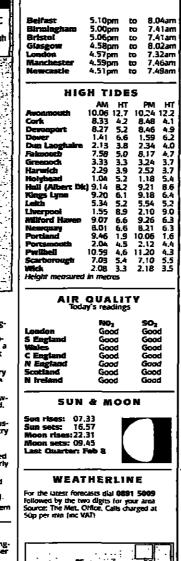
General situation: South and south-east England will be colder than recently but it will be sumier with only the outside chance of a shower. The rest of England and Wales, together with Northern Ireland, will also be cold with sunny spells and scattered showers. The showers most frequent in the west and turning wintry over the mountains. Scotland will be bitterly cold with showers and a strong wind leading to bilizards in the highlands There will also be some sleet or snow even at lower levels by the end of the day.

OUTLOOK Saturday will also be cold with sunny spells and showers, the showers incred by wintry. After a sharp overnight frost, Sunday will turn even colder with fur showers, many of them wintry, attnough southern parts will stay mostly dry.

London: A12 Green Man Roundsboot.
Leytonstone. Mejor roadworks on new M11
ink noad. Until 31s Decomber.
Cambridgeshire A10 between Foxton and
M11. Resurfacing and bridge maintenance
work at Sheprent M81. Until 14th February.
Bristot: M5 J1819. Major Roedworks on
Avoramusti Bridge. Until 22rd June 2001.
Lancashire: M6 Between J27 Sandish and
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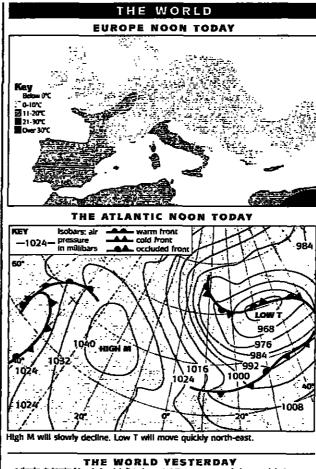
Suffolia A14 Feliastowe Docks. Floatworks. until 28th February.

AA Roadwatch: Car 0338 401777 for the



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OR SHINE... SEVERE GALES caused havoc across northern Britain yesterday. Exposed roads became littered with lorries blown over in gusts reaching 90mph, while thousands of homes in northern Scotland were left without power And forecasters predict little respite for the next 24 hours. Martin Airey from the PA WeatherCentre said: "The extremely windy weather will be around until tomorrow lunchtime, and even after that there will be strong gusts."



IRA murder case charges reduced

DUBLIN YESTERDAY rejected By ALAN MURDOCH as "outrageous" any suggestion of political interference after four men on trial for killing a garda in an IRA robbery had their murder charges reduced to manslaughter.

Amid widespread belief that intimidation of witnesses led to the altered charges, opposition parties yesterday demanded an emergency Dail debate and a statement from the Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern.

Senior sources flatly denied there had been any communication between the government and the director of public

prosecutions, who approved the reduction in the charges, as Irish legal experts queried the manslaughter move. The DPP appears to have

been guided by fears the murder prosecution would fail because of a lack of evidence. allowing the accused to go free. The justice minister will clarify the legal issues to the Dail

when the case has ended. The four will be sentenced before the no-jury anti-terrorist Special Criminal Court today.

1-2:

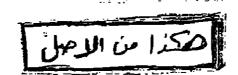
Good News For **NatWest** Small Business **Customers**

Interest rates applicable to **Business Overdraft Agreements**, Business Loan Agreements' and Flexible Business Loan Agreements are reduced by 1/2% per annum with effect from 5 February 1999.

This notice does not apply to agreements which specify the rate as fixed or linked to Base Rate,

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National Westminster Bank Pic, 41 Lathbury, London EC2P 2BF



Crispin Rodwell

THEINDEPINDING

Bludgeoned, maimed, tortured: a month of beatings in Ulster

BY CLARE GARNER AND PAUL LASHMAR

PUNISHMENT BY the paramilitary organisations comes in many forms. Sometimes it can be a bullet through the fleshy part of the leg, or the sadistic, persistent beating around the knees and ankles with baseball bats or pickaxe handles spiked

Since the start of 1999, 42 such beatings have been recorded by the Royal Ulster Constabulary. This marks a dramatic resurgence in violence after a period during which the paramilitary organisations had been relatively inactive. The following are details of some of the attacks.

1 January Belfast

A man had both his hands broken when he was attacked with iron bars in the afternoon in

3 January Belfast

A man was beaten with pickaxe handles studded with nails. The attack, during the afternoon in east Belfast, caused bruising to his body. Two further incidents occurred in Newtownards. The victims, both men, were beaten with iron bars.

4 January

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Good News For

NatWest

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chnicality

Belfast A 25-year-old man was taken to hospital after being beaten by a number of men wielding pickaxe handles in the Markets area of Belfast. The man had injuries to his head, chest and th legs.

Antrim

A gang of five masked men armed with a handgun and metal bars smashed their way into a flat occupied by a woman, a 15-year-old youth and two men in Donegore Drive, Antrim. The two men were taken into the kitchen and beaten. Both suffered head and leg injuries. In a second incident, two men, aged 27 and 29, were each shot once in the leg just before 6pm. They were found lying together in an alleyway at Falcarragh Drive. in the Lenadoon area of west Belfast. One of them had been grabbed and bundled into a car while walking in the Ballymurphy area; the other is thought to have been forced into another car while walking on ae Falls Road. Both were drien to Lenadoon to be shot. All four men involved in the day's incidents were hospitalised.

Two men in the Lurgan area were beaten with iron bars, and suffered leg and head injuries.

7 January Belfast

Two punishment-style attacks took place in the Ormeau Road and Rathcoole areas of Belfast. One man in his twenties was taken to hospital with leg injuries after being beaten with batons and iron bars in Hatfield Street. Another man, also in his twenties, was taken to hospital after being shot in the leg in an incident near the Irish Highway Inn, in Rathcoole, on the northa outskirts of the city at around 7.15pm.

8 January

Stephen Paul, in his twenties, was left in a critical condition after a shooting incident on the loyalist Kilcooley estate, in Ban-gor, Co Down. Despite his injuries he managed to stagger several hundred yards to a main road. He was picked up by an ambulance, which took him to Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital where he had emergency surgery. Mr Paul is the nephew of William "Wassie" Paul, a loyalist drug dealer, who was shot dead a few streets away last July. In a separate incident, two men were beaten with pickaxe handles by three masked men who broke into a house in Kilfe, Jan, Londonderry. The victims, aged 35 and 39, suffered cuts and bruising to their heads and bodies.

Strabane

Six masked IRA men burst into the house of Noel Diver, who lives with his partner and child on a republican estate in Strabane, Co Tyrone. They pulled the 24-year-old from the soia and beat him with baseball

bats and an iron bar. It was several minutes before they realised that they had the wrong house and the wrong man. They left without a word, went next door, seized 22-yearold Michael Brennan, and offered a running commentary as they smashed his limbs. Wait till you hear this one break," one shouted, as he swung a baseball bat down at Mr Brennan's arm. "You're a big man now," said another as they left their victim groaning on his kitchen floor. Both men were left with broken arms and legs, and injuries to their ankles and heads. Two masked men, armed with a baseball bat and a wooden baton, attacked a 17-year-old youth at The Quay, Killough. The victim received bruising to his head, back, face

12 January

An 18-year-old man was beaten with a baseball bat in an attack in Londonderry. He suffered severe bruising.

hospital for treatment.

in bospital after being attacked and beaten with sticks in the Markets area of Belfast. He suffered broken ankles and bruising. Later, another 24-year-old man was shot in the right calf by three masked men at Mount Vernon Park in north Belfast.

17 January

A 32-year-old man required hospital treatment after being beaten by three men armed with a hammer and a wooden bat in Low Road, Lisburn Co Antrim. He suffered a broken

Lurgantarry

hospital for treatment.

with a hammer and baseball bat in an attack in the Lisburn district of Antrim. He suffered a

23 January Belfast

the right leg by loyalist para-militaries in an alleyway off Hopewell Avenue, in the Shankill area of Belfast. In a separate incident two men beat workers at Roscoff Restaurant. in central Belfast, with ham-mers. This incident has not been confirmed as paramilitary.

year-old youth suffered head and face injuries when three masked men burst into his house and beat him with clubs, in what is presumed to have been a loyalist attack. A second man in the house escaped injury by jumping out of a firstfloor window. Earlier, in what appeared to be another para-

military-style shooting, at Maghera, Co Londonderry, a man was shot in the leg. Also, Sean Adams, 18, Gerry Adams' nephew, and a friend, suffered a punishment beating in the St James area of the Falls Road

Newry

Eamon Collins, aged 44, died after what is thought to be an attack by Republicans. He had been repeatedly stabbed and attacked with a blunt object. His body was found in a ditch in Newry. Collins, a former IRA member who had been jailed, turned against the IRA and wrote a book about his exploits. In another incident, which took place shortly after 10pm, a 20-

pital after being assaulted by a masked gang at Newtownabbey, Co Antrim. The woman, teenage girl and five men in their late teens and early twenties were attacked by masked men when their Ford Fiesta pulled up outside the woman's house in the Ballyduff district after a night out. After assaulting the seven people they set fire to the Fiesta and to their own car. The attackers - at least one of whom carried a gun had earlier forced their way into the house, smashing windows and terrifying a babysitter and two children, aged seven and eight. The assault took place hours after a man in his early thirties was shot in the Catholic area of Cookstown, Co Tyrone, in what was treated as a punishment attack, said to have been carried out by the IRA.

1 February

Cookstown At 8.45pm a 28-year-old man was abducted by two masked men in Fountain Road, Cookstown, in Co Tyrone. The man was driven around for two hours in the back of a Citroën car, until at 10.45pm in Moygashel, a republican area of Co Tyrone, he was told to lie on the ground and was shot in the right leg.

2 February Lisnaskea

At 8.30pm a number of men broke into a house in Lisnaskea, Co Fermanagh. They confronted a man in his forties in the hallway of his home, in front of his daughter They struck him on the head with a sledge-hammer and during the struggle shot him in the stomach. He was taken to hospital, where he was described as "seriously ill, but stable." Detectives believe that paramilitaries set out to shoot and mutilate the man and have now left him with a bullet wound to his abdomen.

3 February

Belfast A 40-year-old man was shot in the foot in a Protestant area of east Belfast.



Making money work...

First Active Direc	t Deman	d Accou	int					
Balance (£)	500+	1000+	2500+	5000+	10,000+	25,000+	50,000+	100,000
Gross AER	4.50%	5.00%	5.35%	5.45%	5.55%	5.65%	5.75%	5.85%
Net AER	3.60%	4.00%	4.28%	4.36%	4.44%	4.52%	4.60%	4.68%
First Active Direc	t Notice	Account	ts					
Balance (£)	500+	1000+	2500+	5000+	10,000+	25,000+	50,000+	100,000
30 Day Notice								
Gross AER	5.15%	5.35%	5.45%	5.55%	5.65%	5.75%	5.85%	5.95%
Net AER	4.12%	4.28%	4.36%	4.44%	4.52%	4.60%	4.68%	4.76%
Gross Monthly	5.03%	5.22%	5.32%	5.41%	5.51%	5.60%	5.70%	5.79° ₀
Net Monthly	4.03%	4.18%	4.25%	4.33%	4.41%	4.48%	4.56%	4.63%
90 Day Notice								
Gross AER	5.60%	5.70%	5.80%	6.00%	6.10%	6.20%	6.30%	6.40%
Net AER	4.48%	4.56%	4.64%	4.80%	4.88%	4.96%	5.04%	5.12°°
Gross Monthly	5.46%	5.56%	5.65%	5.84%	5.94%	6.03%	6.13%	6.22%
Net Monthly	4.37%	4.45%	4.52%	4.67%	4.75%	4.82%	4.90%	4.98%
First Active Direc	t Access	Accoun	t					
Balance (£)	5000+	10,000+	25,000+	50,000+	100,000+			
Gross AER	5.85%	5.95%	6.05%	6.15%	6.25%			
Net AER	4.68%	4.76%	4.84%	4.92%	5.00%			
				•				

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Londonderry

14 January

Belfast A 23-year-old man was shot in the thigh by two men at Malvern Way in Belfast's Shankill area. He was taken to

15 January Belfast

A 24-year-old man was detained

Lisburn

wrist and bruising to his head.

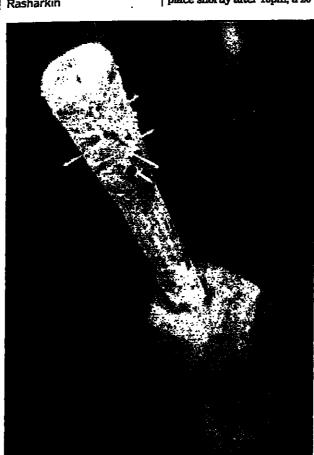
At around 9.15pm a number of | In Rasharkin, Co Antrim an 18masked men entered a house at Lurgantarry, Lurgan, and attacked the male occupant with sticks The victim, who was in his thirties, was then shot in the right arm, right knee and left ankle. He was detained in

Lisburn

A 33-year-old man was beaten

A 17-year-old youth was shot in

25 January



A pickaxe handle studded with nails, the punishment Crispin Rodwell squads' favourite weapon

Suburbs 'may be slums of tomorrow'

"Gaily into Ruislip Gardens, Runs the red electric train. With a thousand Ta's and Pardon's Daintily alights Elaine."

BRITAIN'S SUBURBS, as immortalised by Sir John Betjeman, are in danger of a rapid downhill slide which could even turn them into tomorrow's slums, warns a report published today.

Dominated by owner-occupiers and home to most Britons. the nation's suburbs are largely taken for granted. John Major once described them as

But some, especially those ringing the largest cities, are being battered by stresses which are making their betteroff occupants flee in droves. And that could concentrate poverty within them, giving them the same social problems as the inner city.

Michael Gwilliam, director of the Civic Trust, the charity which campaigns to make cities more attractive, and one of the report's authors, said: "It's understandable that most attention in the debate about urban renewal has been focussed on inner cities. But the lack of analysis and debate about suburban areas is disturbing. Some parts of them need early attention if they are to avoid becoming tomorrow's problems."

Les Sparks, Birmingham's chief planning officer, agreed. "We mustn't neglect the typical, sprawling 20th-century suburbs," he said. "In Birmingham we're concerned about the probBY NICHOLAS SCHOON

lems of outward migration from them." He said the people moving out, "leapfrogging the green belt" into shire towns. were largely "white, middleclass, employed home owners" and they left poorer people

The report, Sustainable Renewal of Suburban Areas, was written by the Civic Trust and planning consultants Ove Arup & Partners, and funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. It includes case studies in North Bristol, London's Redbridge, North Tyneside and Northfield,

One of the suburbs biggest problems is the decline in their local shopping centres, caused by the growth of superstores and the high car ownership which allows residents to shop further from home. They begin to become shabby and shops are left vacant, destroying the neighbourhood's sense of identity and self-respect.

The loss of health, leisure and other community facilities due to centralisation on large sites and the growth of out-of-town style developments is also damaging suburbs and taking away local shops. Often bus routes which serve them are out of date, feeding into the city centre instead of catering for outwards and sideways journeys.

The report suggests local councils should spearhead early, careful, interventions to improve declining suburbs before a gentle descent turns into a rapid slide. But the last thing

A vision of suburban 1950s Britain which researchers say has died as families leave in droves

having destroyed many inner city residential areas.

The key is to secure the backing of suburbanites, in recognising their neighbourhoods have problems and in suggesting improvements. But this may

community and residents may be suspicious about change.

The authors also suggest that suburbs should be given the same local government powers as village parishes, enabling them to raise modest sums

velopment. They also advocate making National Lottery money available for community-led initiatives to halt suburban decay. Controversially, the authors advocate converting some suburban houses into flats and

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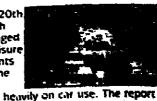
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they need is the kind of massive not be easy, because suburbs through council tax for local imsome demolition and redevel-redevelopment now seen as often lack a strong sense of provements and community decomment to build denser housing coment to build denser housing near public transport links and alongside open spaces. And it says greater variety of house types is needed to cater for the growing number of single people and couples without chil-

AREAS OF DECLINE

The Victorian and early 20th century suburbs of north Bristol are being challenged by massive shopping, leisure and housing developments north of the city, near the M4 and M5 motorways.



These growth areas rely heavily on car use. The report says that the equivalent of a new city centre is forming. without Bristol council thinking through the impact on existing suburbs.

REDBRIDGE, NORTH-EAST LONDON

Parts appear to be entering a spiral of decline, As local shops and services close. residents become increasingly dependent on private cars. This worsens congestion and pollution.

while isolating poorer people without cars. The suburb is challenged by a big shopping centre in Thurrock, while another that is soon to open in Dartford will add to the pressure on local shops. The report suggests a major facelift for Gants Hill, to capitalise on its Underground station

WEST NORTHFIELD, BIRMINGHAM The study singles out this unfashionable outer suburb near Rover's Longbridge works because of the way in which the council has tried to involve local people in improving the area. It



was selected for a pilot project in 1993 which has now been extended to the rest of the city. In each Birmingham ward an advisory board is set up, with representatives from the community and local authorities. Each board is given £80,000 to spend on improvements, which could include such things as traffic-calming measures and better lighting.



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Mandelson did not drop Maxwell case '

PETER MANDELSON'S former By COLIN BROWN permanent secretary has revesled that the former secretary of state did not stand aside from the Department of Trade and Industry case against Kevin Maxwell, in spite of his loan from Geoffrey Robinson, a former close business associate of the Maxwells.

Kevin Maxwell, the son of the late Robert Maxwell, is being taken to the High Court next week by the DTI to force him tors' inquiry into an alleged fraud behind the flotation of the Mirror Group. Sir Michael Scholar, Perma-

nent Secretary to the Department of Trade and Industry, under Mr Mandelson's successor, Stephen Byers, disclosed in a DTI note to John Redwood, the Tory spokesman, that Mr Mandelson "did not consider it appropriate to stand aside from consideration of this issue." There is no suggestion Mr Mandelson has broken any rules but Mr Redwood, a past DTI minister said he was 'unwise" not to rule himself out of consideration of the case after borrowing £373,000 for his house from Mr Robinson, which led to his departure from the Cabinet. "I am astonished

Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Mandelson did not stand aside on all of the Maxwell issues, given his close relationship with Mr Robinson and given the connections between the Maxwell empire and one of Mr Robinson's trading companies. Mr Mandelson would have had to read a lot of papers and files before the DTI proposal to intervene in the court case and barking on that reading how far it might go. I think he was very ill-advised to agree to do that.

"He was leaving himself open to reading a lot of material that could have placed him in an embarrassing position. I don't know that it did, but it

could have done." The former paymaster-general worked closely with Kevin Maxwell in the family's engineering companies before Robert Maxwell's death in 1991 led to the discovery of the raids on the Mirror Group pension fund to shore up the Maxwells' Mirror empire. Mr Robinson had nothing to do with the pension fund. Kevin Maxwell was cleared of criminal deception in a civil case but is being pressed to assist in the DTI inquiry.

A DTI note, sent to Mr Red-wood by Sir Michael, said: "As far as the inspection into Mirror Group newspapers is concerned, this is being carried out by independent inspectors appointed by the department in 1992; action currently rests with them. The inspectors have recently certified to the court Mr Kevin Maxwell's failure to co-operate; and the department has been joined as a party to this action at its reconsider it appropriate to stand aside from consideration of

Mr Redwood said: "At the very least he made a misjudgment, because the Maxwell case goes so wide and includes so many characters there was always the danger that in the paperwork he would have to read before committing the department he would have discovered things he should not have been involved in. The Permanent Secretary is implying this because he is saying Mr Mandelson did step aside from all the things to do with Mr Robinson. My judgment is that he should stood aside from the Kevin Maxwell case as well."

Mr Mandelson was not available for comment last night

IN BRIEF

Aitken court bid withdrawn

AN APPLICATION to alter the bail conditions of Jonathan Aitken, so that it was believed he would ask for his passport, was withdrawn at the Old Bailey yesterday by his solicitors. Aitken, 56, is waiting to be sentenced for perjury in his libel action against *The Guardian* and Granada TV.

Attempted murder charges laid

A man, 27, was yesterday remanded in custody on charges of attempting to murder five people. Li Fu Kang, a kitchen worker, allegedly tried to kill Tim Cheng, 69 - the owner of a Chinese takeaway near Cheltenham - Mr Cheng's wife, their son-in-law and two grandchildren, on 1 February.

Few greens eaten on Emerald isle THE IRISH are continuing to ignore advice to eat up their greens, according to new figures. The consumption of fruit and vegetables in Ireland is stuck at one of the lowest levels in Europe despite campaigns based on health grounds, said Mike Gibney, professor of nutrition at Dublin's Trinity College university. Pensioners' cancel millennium

A PENSIONERS' CLUB in Sunderland which booked a community centre in 1991 for a millennium dance, has had to cancel the planned celebration - because most of its members have died. When the group booked it had almost 70 members, but there are now only around 30.

Herbal cigarettes also harmful SMOKERS WANTING to quit who think that puffing on a herbal cigarette may be a safe substitute are being misled. Scientists who tested one brand of a vegetablebased cigarette on five students found they produced levels of carbon monoxide high enough to damage health. Herbal cigarettes are sold as an aid to quitting smoking.

Rude awakening for late pupils A SCHOOL has introduced morning wake-up calls for pupils who are regularly late for classes. A team of governors at London's Islington Green school are telephoning pupils' homes as part of efforts to improve standards.

48-hour Tube strike called

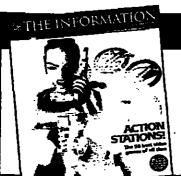
By BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

UNION LEADERS last night called a 48-hour strike on London Underground and predicted "severe disruption" to services over a four-day period.

Up to 7,000 tube employees are to walk out at 6pm on Sunday, 14 February until the same time on Tuesday, 16 February in protest at the partial privatisation of the network.

It is expected management will be able to maintain a skeleton service, but there could also be delays before and after the industrial action.

The strike call followed two hours of talks between London Underground and the RMT rail union, which represents most staff on the system. The mosting was described as "amica-ble", but management was unable to offer the necessary assurances about the impact of the sell-off on employees' terms and conditions. The union wants a guarantee there will be no compulsory redundancies.



IN STHE INDEPENDENT ON SATURDAY

Action stations: the 50 best video games of all time in *THE INFORMATION

THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO STAYING IN AND GOING OUT IN THE WEEK AHEAD

PLUS ANN TRENEMAN TAKES ON ERICA JONG AND ANNA PAVORD ON THE **PLANTS IN PERIL**

BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, MARK STEEL, ROBERT LISK, DEBORAH ORR, TERENCE BLACKER JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, SUSANNAH FRANKEL, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD. ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

C4 admits new fake and bars film's producer

CHANNEL 4 has admitted that BY PAUL MCCANN a documentary aired in 1997 contained scenes where filmmakers posed as clients picking up rent boys.

Marie Devine, the producer of Too Much Too Young: Chickens, has admitted lying to Channel 4 about her programme in a case which will further undermine the credibility of television documentaries. She has been banned from working for the channel

Following the revelation that ITV's award-winning drug documentary The Connection was faked, Carlton Television was fined £2m by the Independent Television Commission. The TTC said yesterday that it was now investigating Chickens, but refused to comment on whether the channel may be

Channel 4 is also investigating allegations against another, unnamed, documentary. There is growing speculation that senior Channel 4 executives may be forced to resign if the reports are found to be true.

Chickens, made by an independent producer, Basement Productions, was aired in 1997 as a part of a season of films by first-time directors and producers. It claimed to have se-dren in its care. The council

cretly filmed footage of clients approaching boys on the streets of Glasgow. In fact, the clients were members of the film crew. In one scene, the programme claimed to show a man pulling up in a family car on a road in Kelvingrove Park. The man supposedly paid an 18year-old known as Kammy £20 for oral sex.

The programme made headbroadcast in April 1997 because of claims by the boys that television celebrities and footballers had paid them for sex. The faked footage was ex-

posed by a researcher who worked on the programme, Peter McGraith, on Radio 5 Live's Parris on TV programme. Channel 4 initially denied the allegations when they emerged in November, but after further questioning of Ms Devine by its lawyers last month, she admitted that scenes had been faked.

The revelation comes at a bad time for the channel. It is currently in dispute with Nottingham city council which is trying to block the broadcast of a film, Staying Lost, about chil-

aged a young girl to pretend to be a prostitute and that they paid children to appear in the

Channel 4 is standing by its producer and plans to fight the council in court.

Tim Gardam, the channel's director of programmes, issued a statement vesterday placing the blame over Chickens on Ms Devine.

He said: "Our procedures are robust, but no procedures lines in Scotland when it was are proof against deliberate and organised deception. The way in which the scenes were set up is an unacceptable breach of trust with the audience and Channel 4."

Last September, the channel was forced to halt the screening of a programme, Daddy's Girl, when officials discovered they had been hoaxed by a couple pretending to be father and daughter.

Because of the concerns over faked documentaries, Channel 4 has issued guidelines for producers working on investigative and observational programmes. It is also planning a series of seminars for producers and directors in which it will remind them of their ethical and regulatory responsi-



Too Much Too Young: Chickens (above) is under investigation by the Independent Television Commission. Marie Devine, the producer, has admitted lying to broadcasters Channel 4 about the content of the show

AND HERE'S ONE WE MADE UP EARLIER:

The Connection

The most high-profile piece of fakery so far cost Carlton Television a £2m fine from the television regulator. The film claimed to show a drug smuggler swallowing heroin and flying into Britain. In fact, his plane tickets were bought by the director and it was claimed be swallowed nothing more harmful than mints.



Driving School

The BBC's hit docu-soap involved scenes that could only have been set up by a camera crew. These "fly-on-the-wall" scenes included one instance when the infamous Maureen Rees woke her husband at four in the morning so that he he could test her on the Highway Code before her

test.



Cutting Edge: Rogue Males

Channel 4's documentary about "ducking and diving" builders turned out to be largely reconstructions of the men's claims. Some of the characters who appeared to be strangers actually knew each other. Three of the characters had been in a previous

documentary made by the

producer.



ITV's "Survival" slot admitted tame hyenas, porcupines and wild cats were used when it put together a documentary

which was shortlisted for the 1998 Wildscreen Golden Panda awards. This led to natural history producers admitting that they occasionally use tame animals to achieve certain shots.

Comic Relief **'stole**

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

FRIVOLITY WAS tinged with fury yesterday after the organisers of Comic Relief's Red Nose Day were accused of stealing the design for their

hooting plastic noses. As celebrities launched the day of forced humour, Result International Ltd, a small design company from Esher, Surrey, lodged a writ in the Patent Court of the Chancery Division. It claims that after spending three months developing the nose. Comic Relief passed samples to a rival firm.

No one was laughing yesterday as Comic Relief described the writ as cynical and "very disappointing". A spokeswoman said: "We last heard from the company in November and then nothing until today.

"You have to look at the timing of this – it is very cynical. We have taken legal advice on this and we have been told that it is unsubstantiated.

"It's deplorable that this should come out on the launch of Red Nose Day. It's purely opportunistic."

Result International reportedly wants the charity to pay it £500,000 in lost earnings after the contract for the noses being sold in Sainsbury's, Savacentre and Homebase at £1 each - went to Watermark Ple.

Result's director, Robert Seymour, declined to comment. Earlier he had been quoted as saying: "We produced a number of samples of our product and passed them on to Comic Relief. They liked the design and even asked for a visit to the factory we use in China. But last said they had given the design to somebody else."

The company's solicitor, Valerie Toon, yesterday said no amount of compensation had been mentioned in the writ. She declined to comment further. Comic Relief's Red Nose

Day is to be held on 12 March and organisers hope that in the coming five weeks they will raise more than £30m.

Ball leads Radio 1 revival as Evans slumps

ZOE BALL has led a recovery in BBC radio's fortunes, adding half a million listeners to her breakfast show on Radio One, according to official data released yesterday.

The latest figures, compiled by Radio Joint Audience Research, show that Ms Ball, who took sole possession of the breakfast slot last September helped Radio One to lift its au-

FREE 3D COLOUR DESIGN AND PLANNING SEM

BY RHYS WILLIAMS

dience to 11.4m listeners and its market share to its highest level for nearly two years. The revival coincided with the continuing slump at Chris Evans's Virgin Radio, which saw its audience fall by 130,000 to 3.7m. Radio Four also appears to

have emerged from a recent trough by adding 260,000 lis-

teners to its audience. With Radios Two, Three and Five Live all holding firm, the BBC has narrowed the gap in audience share with commercial radio to 0.8 per cent.

Ms Ball's success appears to signal a new period of confidence at Radio One, and sets the seal on changes introduced by Andy Parfitt, who took over as controller last spring.

he is outgunned by Ms Ball by more than two to one. Radio Four is drawing much

boost his own breakfast-show

audience of 2.2m by 2.3 per cent,

the increase in listening hours Chris Evans, who left the station's breakfast show two years as validation for extensive ago, had vowed to "kill' Radio schedule changes introduced One when he took over at Virby controller, James Boyle. gin. Yesterday's figures show that, although he was able to

Although audience levels have not return to the eight-million mark-after losing 500,000 listeners in the previous quarter - its 7.94m listeners are tuning in on average for more than 11 hours a week, the highcomfort from the figures, citing est level for more than three

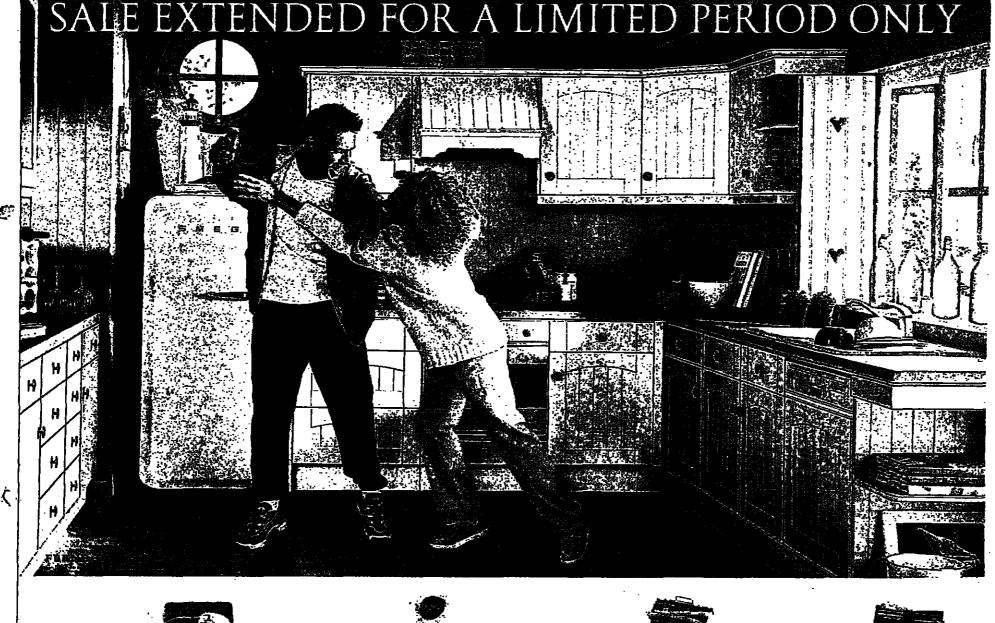
years."We're beginning to see the first signs that the changes are working the way we want

them to," said a spokeswoman. There was also encouragement for commercial radio. Classic FM enjoyed a record quarter, increasing its audience by 10 per cent year on year to 5.1m listeners.

Leading article, Review, page 3



Zoe Ball: breakfast show outgunning Chris Evans



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7p loaf marks greatest price war since sliced bread

terday as a bread price war broke out in supermarkets. Asda slashed the cost of a standard white sliced loaf to 9p, followed by Tesco before Kwik Save pipped them at the post with its No Frills bread 2p cheaper - which Tesco matched yesterday.

All claimed to be offering the customer the best value in the latest round of promotions since the Office of Fair Trading launched an investigation into alleged supermarket profiteering last year

The offers follow a warning before Christmas from Colin Smith, the chief executive of Safeway, that declining consumer confidence could spark a

Local price cuts in some supermarkets in Leeds, home to the headquarters of Asda, triggered the round of reductions. An Asda spokesman said they had decided to respond, but their policy was to have the same prices in all stores. "This is not a kneejerk decision, it's a strategic decision," he said.

A Tesco spokesman said they had followed suit because and LINUS GREGORIADIS

think this is the cheapest price

Jill Rawlins, of Kwik Save,

said their 17p to 7p cut was to show that they were not only competitive but cheaper "than those with bigger [promotion] budgets. "There's more than the money angle," she said, adding that research after the last baked-beans war showed that customers were now more aware of the company's commitment to being the cheapest. David Smith, chief executive

2p for each tin they took away.

of the National Association of a supermarket sells really cheap

HIGH STREET BATTLE

Baked beans: At the height of the "bean war" three

years ago, sparked by Tesco reducing the price of a tin

to 3p, a small supermarket in Somerset paid customers

Bananas: Bananas became the focus of intense cost-

a pound plummeted to 15p in some stores.

company. It issued a retaliatory writ in October.

cutting of fruit and vegetables in late 1995. The price of

Designer clothes: When Tesco offered Levi Strauss jeans

for £30, it was threatened with a writ from the clothes

loaves, customers will go there permarkets were trying to protect themselves against discounting stores. There is absolutely no way at that price you are even covering the in-

gredients used in a loaf of bread. The supermarkets are using large industrial bakers to produce this flour and water rubbish at a low price." Marcus Greenwood, who

runs a family chain of seven bakeries in Greater Manchester, has felt the effect on his trade in bread since the arrival of Asda, Sainsbury and Tesco near his shops and says the price war will only make things worse. "When

to buy them. They would be stupid not to." he said. He said his bakeries had

had to adapt: "While bread was once 60 per cent of the business. it now accounts for about a quarter. We have had to diversify into sandwiches and other kinds of fast food. Ldon't think any normal craft baker would have survived unless they gone into other markets.

Richard Hyman, chairman of the retail research company Verdict, said bread was a KVI a known-value item – which regular shoppers know the price of. This made it difficult for other supermarkets not to follow suit if one significantly cut the price of such a staple, although Sainsbury and Safeway have not.

Bread at this price could not be profitable but the extra publicity generated made up for it, he said. The effect was quite subtle: customers did not necessarily change allegiance because of the price of bread. But if they realised a rival was selling it more cheaply they might question the prices of other goods in their favoured store.



Elaine Southwood serving in Greenwood's Craftsman Bakers in Oldham, Greater Manchester Murtin Rickett

Access to secrets will be diluted

tered down its long-awaited plans for a Freedom of Information Act, which will be published next month.

Although ministers will hail their proposals as an historic and radical change, they are facing a backlash from Labour MPs furious that the legislation will be weaker than outlined in a 1997 White Paper.

Yesterday the Cabinet agreed to pencil in the Act as on the Government and other a top priority for inclusion in the Queen's Speech in November. would be substantial harm to which means the measure will take effect next year. Ministers hope that bringing in swift legislation will placate Labour MPs but are bracing themselves for a rebellion during the bill's passage through Parliament.

Under the White Paper proposals, the Government and other public bodies would be allowed to refuse to reveal information if disclosure would cause "substantial harm".

Critics of the move, in next month's draft bill, say this will allow Whitehall to block the disclosure of many documents that would be been made public under the original plans.

Labour MPs who want "an act with teeth" believe it has been watered down by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, who took over responsibility for freedom of information after David Clark, the Cabinet Office minister, was sacked by Tony Blair last July. Mr Clark drew up the White Paper and want- fidential.

THE GOVERNMENT has wa- By ANDREW GRICE Political Editor

> ed a radical bill. Andrew Mackinlay the Labour MP for Thurrock, said yesterday: "The White Paper was a groundbreaking document and should be enacted in full. It would give us one of the most rudical Freedom of Information Acts in the world."

He said the onus should be bodies to prove that there the public good before information were withheld. It should not be restricted merely to spare their embarrassment.

Mire Bon

As a Cabinet committee chaired by Lord Irvine of Lairg. the Lord Chancellor, puts the final touches to next month's draft bill, Labour MPs fear ministers may also dilute Mr Clark's plans for an independent Information Commissioner with wide-ranging powers. He would investigate complaints that public bodies were not complying with the

The MPs are also pressing for the police to be covered by the act, although they accept that material which might affect a criminal case should not be

The security services will be exempt from the legislation and policy advice to ministers by their officials and communications between Whitehall departments will remain con-

DNA tests reveal some 'organic' foods modified

DNA TESTING has revealed BY CHARLES ARTHUR that some "organic" foods, including tortilia chips and soya flour sold in British health food shops, contained genetically modified components.

More than 87,000 packets of

tortilla chips have been destroyed after being recalled from British and Continental distributors. Tests using genetic markers showed that the maize used to make the chips contained the genes from a virus which is used for genetic engineering in maize plants, The American manufacturer, Terra Prima, said it had traced the source back to maize grown on a 7,000-acre farm in Texas. where many other farmers grow genetically modified forms of the crop.

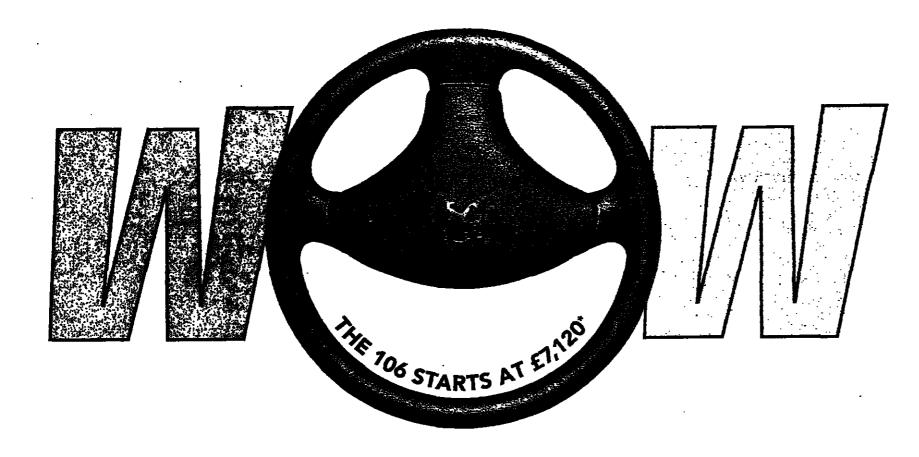
Separately, the Laboratory of the Government Chemist,

Technology Editor

discovered more than a year ago that some soya flour contained genes which indicated some of the beans used had

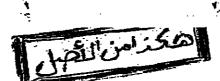
been genetically medified. To qualify for the "organic" label, crops have to have been grown without the use of manufactured pesticides or herbicides. International organic growing associations have agreed GM crops do not qualify as "organic" because of the bio-technology they embody.

The discovery of "DNA contamination" in organic products has caused consternation among organic food distribu-tors, "We consider this to be unwanted, unacceptable and potentially dangerous contamination," said a spokesman for which runs one of the three food the UK Whole foods: Trade, rep DNA testing centres in the UK resenting organic retailers.





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THE INDIPADING

Pupils prefer

electrical to

the classical

sticed brea Welsh attacks 'elitist' theatres

Trainspotting and a cult novelist and playwright, has launched a stinging attack on British theatre.

He says it is elitist and moribund; its audiences are patronising and do not like young people volubly enjoying themselves; the critics are out of touch. Real kudos and glamour only impinge when a star "getting bored with film" decides to tread the boards - Ewan Mc-Gregor, Nicole Kidman, Juliette Binoche. But, warns Welsh, "do not hold your breath waiting for their next play".

An adaptation of Trainspotting was a success on the stage; and Welsh's latest play, You'll Have Had Your Hole, pre-miered in Leeds and had its London West End opening to a young and starry audience on . younger, hipper crew away. This Wednesday night.

But, writing in The Stage newspaper today, Welsh pours scorn on theatre and its audiences. He says "theatre is seen as boring, pompous and second-

Cookson: Her romantic

fiction sells – and sells

Arts News Editor

appreciators of other art forms such as cinema and music. Trainspolting brought new people into the theatre, he says, but this was not seen as a good thing.

"The patronising attitude displayed towards members of the audience for having the audacity to enjoy the play was turned into outright hostility when my play You'll Have Had Your Hole premiered in Leeds. "Sadly this was not surpris-

ing. Theatre is posher and older than most mediums - this vibe generally hits you as soon as you walk into one. The soporific content of the majority of West End plays and the cricket Test ambience of the theatre seems essentially designed to keep a eems to hold for performers as well as audiences.

You'll Have Had Your Hole – a story of a kidnap of a gangster that includes anal rape, torture and drug-taking - was rate" by most practitioners and described by one critic as "the

oublished yesterday.

At number two was the less

well-known name of Dr David

Hessayon, whose gardening

Yorkshire Bank

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A scene from Irvine Welsh's controversial play 'You'll Have Had Your Hole'

most obnoxious and contemptible" play he had seen. However, Welsh discloses that he was happy to use negative reviews by theatre critics to publicise the play as he was working on the premise that

condemnation from the out-oftouch is as valid an endorsement as praise from the hip". One promoter did back off, he

Catherine Cookson the bestseller of the decade

That was not the fault of the critics, "but of the spineless, tunnelvisioned promoters administrators who want to service an expanding market rather than expand it". The play's London premiere was at a rock concert venue, the Astoria.

Welsh goes on to say that theatre and its audiences today would not be endorsed by Shakereveals, because of the reviews. speare. He declares: "Shake-

with the lager brigade, staggering in to see Trainspotting. His audiences were not just old and bourgeois, they were critical, chied-up punters who would stand around drinking, and give the actors a bit of verbal if they were bored ... They were part of a much more vibrant theatre scene than the moribund nonsense that passes for one now."

Accusing theatre of "cosy appeal to some in their teens, go to Cambridge. To do this, however, we are going to have to encourage stage plays that deal with troubling, contemporary material, and then allow them to be appreciated, hated and en-

elitism", Welsh concludes: "It might be cool if theatre could twenties and thirties who did not joyed by the people who get it."

The survey comes a week after David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, doubled to £180m the funds for school music. Bob Kelley, secretary general of the Music Industries Association, said: "We should have been doing this a long time ago. I bet there are a lot of kids playing the drums or guitar in their bedrooms or in the garage, rather than being in an orchestra or a wind band at weekends."

essons than teaching piano.

The survey of nearly 1,000

primary and secondary schools

found that traditional instru-

ments like the trumpet and vi-

olin were however, still

dominant in schools. At primary

level, the humble recorder was

the most common instrument

to be taught, while secondary

schools were most likely to

teach woodwind instruments

Less than a third of schools

said that they were meeting

the demand for music teach-

ing, in spite of the figures

showing that a slightly larger

proportion of pupils was learn-

ing an instrument. The number

of orchestras, bands and music

groups wasdown. Only 55 per

cent of schools said they had an

orchestra, down from 66 per

cent six years ago. The number

of wind bands and recorder

groups has also slumped.

like the clarinet and oboe.

John Dunford, general secretary of the Secondary Heads' Association, said: "There has been a revolution in school exciting subject and has much because they are very good for bringing in children who are not brilliantly musical. "But it

ELECTRONIC KEYBOARDS BY BEN RUSSELL **Education Correspondent**

and electric guitars are taking over from classical instruis still an area of huge concern ments in the classroom, according to a national survey of There is not enough money for music in schools. The study, by music and it has been one of the the opinion pollster Mori, found big casualties of the past 10 that the number of schools ars. Good music is absoluteteaching "hi-tech" instruments ly vital to a school. All the best had doubled in the past six schools have very active music years. More secondary schools departments." were offering electric guitar

The survey, commissioned by the Performing Rights So-

TOP 13

instruments taught in classrooms Primary schools Recorder Strings Woodwind Brass Acoustic guitar Piano Voice Electronic keyboards Percussion Saxophone Electric guitar Ethnic instruments Нагр Secondary schools 91 87 85 76 76 74 Brass Strings Acoustic guitar Percussion Saxophone Electric guitar Electronic keyboards

Harp ciety and the accountants. Price Waterhouse Coopers, found that more parents were being asked to pay for music lessons - at 80 per cent of schools, compared with 33 per

Recorder

cent six years ago. On average, parents were paying £61 a term, and nearly a third of schools felt parents were having difficulty finding the fees. The report said: "The evidence suggests a substantial reduction in the level of overmusic. It is now a much more all public funding of instrumental/vocal tuition and more variety. Electronic in- ancillary services... Parents struments have really con- are now bearing a much

> Leading article Review, page 3

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a Greater Manufactor

BENEVIEW IN the WA

Ball Mar Stee will Mr i bert der a

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A tests reveal

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who died last year, was confirmed as Britain's best-selling

DAME CATHERINE Cookson, By JACKIE BURDON

guides, such as The House author of the decade in a list Plant Expert, have sold 10.5 million copies in the past decade It was no surprise when the alone. Dr Hessayon was chief scientist at a gardening firm perennial favourite led the top 10 with 14.5 million sales in the when he started writing. past 10 years. Dame Cather-

in the 40 years since his ine's novels have sold more first book, Be Your Own Garthan 100 million copies worlddening Expert appeared, Dr wide. Her first novel, Kate Han-nigan, was published in 1950. Hessavon has sold 40 million

The list was compiled to mark the 10th anniversary of the British Book Awards.



Pratchett: Ten million science fiction books sold

TOP 10 OF THE NINETIES

Author Genre Catherine Cookson romantic fiction David Hessayon Terry Pratchett

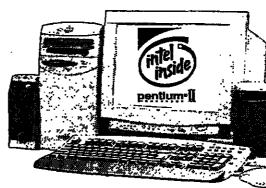
Danielle Steel **Delia Smith Stephen King** John Grisham

Dick Francis Maeve Binchy 10 Wilbur Smith

gardening 10.5m science fiction romantic fiction 8m+ cookery modern horror legal thrillers 7m+ thrillers fiction

adventure fiction 5m Source: Bookwatch

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Tory swine uncover the great porkballs carve-up scandal

WE'VE HAD a Cod War and a Beef borders and urging him to do so at weight without developing what is War and now, it seems, Tory backbenchers are determined to try a new recipe for Eurosceptic belligerence. They want a Pork War and yesterday, during agriculture questions, they indignantly pestered the Agriculture Minister, Nick Brown, to

of pigmeat (it sounds so much less appetising put like that, doesn't it?) a scintillating document which I can on the grounds that the animals had been raised in inhumane conditions? Typical of the pork hawks was the Tory MP Desmond Swayne, reminding Mr Brown that he had existing powers to repel Italian salami and German speck from our

once. Did he not know that producers in this country "are being undercut" because foreign producers are less tender and solicitous of

In truth one of the reasons they're being undercut is because start one at the earliest opportunity. their pigs are not - a detail conveyed Why did he not ban the imports in the Agriculture Committee's rerecommend to readers as perfect beach reading if they happen to be taking a sunshine break in the near future. The report points out that castration is far more widely employed on the Continent, which allows pigs to reach a much heavier

known as "boar taint". As a result the "finished" pig (meat production generates almost as many coy euphemisms as war) is cheaper, diogram for kilogram, than the British product.

If you were a pig, then, the issue would be clear: impose a ban now. I can almost hear the songs already: 'There'll be big boars over the white cliffs of Dover", "We'll meat again", "It's a loin way to Piccalilli".

Tory members, of course, were less concerned for the welfare of Euro-pigs than the fiscal health of their pig farming constituents, not to mention their own standing as a plausible opposition. They were THE SKETCH

SUTCLIFFE

rooting in the churned-up field of food production for some juicy morsels of righteous indignation and this certainly seemed promising. up on the Labour benches to clarify the matter. "Why shouldn't we on principle block the importing of pig meat if it is inhumanely raised?" he asked, with a brevity that is normally synonymous with hostile intent.

Following the Tory leader William Hague's lead yesterday, there was also a fair amount of poking and snuffling around the issue of genetically modified food and the proposed levy on food shops to fund the new Food Standards Agency.

But the big issue of the day was the continuing ban on beef on-thebone. This has not been handled terribly well by Mr Brown's office, from which tantalising smells of over the clumsy spinning of this terday he might well have agreed.

Even Dale Campbell-Savours stood roast sirloin have been wafting in recent weeks, fanned to eager nostrils by unseen hands. Then, once farmers and restaurateurs were salivating at the prospect, Mr Brown threw open the door and announced that the beef was off, and that the Chief Medical Officer haddeclined

to give it a clean bill of health. Mr Brown defended his decision perfectly well yesterday, sidechoose what goes into restaurant gravy, particularly if you're rude to the waiters) as well as emphasising the clarity of his scientific advice. But he ignored the question-mark

move, like a man who had accidentally trodden in a cowpat and was trying to pretend that the smell had nothing to do with him.

Voters who are left feeling dietetically nervous by this curious vacillation were offered some free advice by the Labour MP David Winnick, who, with a bean-fed piety, asked the Minister to tell him whether there were any vegetarian stepping the Tories' advocacy of foods that caused the same diffi-individual choice (you don't get to culties as the House had just been discussing ("Peanuts!" shouted some of his colleagues helpfully).

Mr Winnick should simply have stood up and said "Meat is murder" - Mr Brown is a carnivore but yes-

BSE hazard 'still largely unknown'

FEARS OVER the extent of the bovine spongiform encephalitis (BSE) crisis escalated yesterday when MPs were told that there were still no clear findings about the eventual extent of the

A hard-hitting report by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) is unable to provide any firm conclusions from the present cases of new-variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (nv-CJD), the human form of BSE, because the disease has an incubation period of years, not months.

The warning from the CMO. Professor Liam Donaldson, came as Nick Brown, the Minister of Agriculture, announced that the beef-on-the-bone ban would remain for at least another six months because there was still "a small risk" for public health.

Dismissing Tory attacks on his decision, Mr Brown said 35 people so far had died of nv-CJD and it was a "statistical certainty" that more would follow. "It is absolutely right to err. if err we do, on the precautionary side. dropping in the last few weeks ban should remain in place."

By SARAH SCHAEFER Political Reporter

Should the incidence of confirmed cases of nv-CJD in people begin to increase be "absolutely wrong" to set substantially this would be a aside the scientific and medical source of grave concern and would signal, in part, a higher degree of sensitivity in the human population to BSE infected cat- and away the worst thing 1 tle tissue than has been apparent hitherto," he said. In a statement to MPs

confirming a report in The Independent last week - Mr lichealth and retain confidence Brown said the CMO's report in beef and beef products rewarned there was a possibility mains the Government's paraof maternal transmission, where BSE could be passed from cow to calf, and the "very small but still present risk that could cause infectivity in the hone element and the materi-

al clinging to the bone". But Tim Yeo, the Tory spokesman on agriculture, accused Mr Brown of "failing" his "first real test" of leadership after "all the hints he had been cal that the beef-on-the-bone

huge disappointment for farmers and consumers who are being denied the chance to choose their own menus." he said.

Mr Brown insisted it would advice given by the CMO to make a "political decision" on such a serious issue. "By far could do for the beef market is to create some new uncertainty as to whether the product is safe. The need to protect pub mount concern," he said.

Mr Brown promised to review the ban in August.

Ben Gill, president of the National Farmers' Union, said Mr Brown had defied common sense. "The Government appears to have taken an ultra, ultra-precautionary approach, but to the ordinary person in the street it must seem nonsensi-



William and Ffion Hague launched National Marriage Week, with John and Heather Hookway (married last July), on the steps of

MPs defy Darling over benefit fraud

THE GOVERNMENT was accused of complacency over benefit fraud vesterday after a Commons committee published figures claiming that more than one in three claims was potentially inaccurate.

The Social Security Select Committee defied ministers by issuing the results of an official BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

pilot study into the £2.5bn fam-

ily credit system. Alistair Darling, the Secretary of State for Social Security, to publish the results as they were not statistically valid and

were never intended to be made public. said it was acting to promote greater government openness a full review of family credit and better-informed debate and

attacked the Benefits Agency enough to give robust results."

for failing to use the study to carry out a wider inquiry.

The nationwide study found that 123 out of 326 "outcomes" of case reviews involved possible or actual fraud.

"We remain concerned that these indicative findings did had warned the committee not not lead on to a full review. which could have analysed the probable extend of each type of fraud," the committee's report. into the affair said. "It is a However, the committee matter for regret that the Benefits Agency did not proceed to

Parliament to judge the Government's plans to introduce. Iain Duncan Smith, the Conservative's social security spokesman, said: "Labour Steven Webb, said the report promised to be tough on bene-

fit fraud, but this report shows

their utter complacency. "The fact that the Government delayed publication of tinue this review and use the this report proves their failure to deal with fraud. The situation based on a sample large is bad enough, but things will get even worse with the intro-

The MPs said that the fig-duction of the working families' ures were important to estab- tax credits, which will lish a baseline of fraud levels for encourage greater fraud as it places more emphasis on speed of payment at the working families tax credit. expense of careful checking." The Liberal Democrat's

spokesman on tax credits.

showed the Government was "ducking the issue on fraud". "If the Government really did want to stop fraud, it would conresults to ensure that the tax credit was watertight and built to prevent rather than encour-

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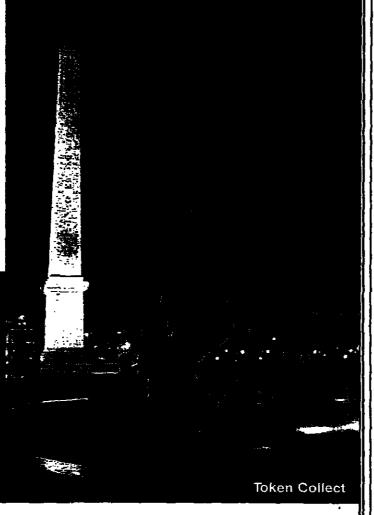
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QUESTIONS

ANSWERS Import figures

RESEARCH SCIENTISTS imported 2,362 primates from around the world into Britain last year, Alan Meale, the Environment minister said. He told MPs that 2,196 were crabeating macaques from Mauritius, Philippines and Israel, some 160 rhesus macaques were imported from China, while six squirrel monkeys were

imported from the US. **Wrong testing**

TWO TEST companies growing geneticallymodified crops have broken regulations governing their development, Michael Meacher, the Environment minister disclosed. He said the breaches were by Nickersons Biochem at Holton-le-Moor in Lincolnshire and the Scottish Crop Research Institute at two sites in Invergowrie, Dundee.

Surplus places SCHOOLS IN England had more than 761,000 surplus places in January last year, representing 10 per cent of the total capacity of 7.6 million places, Charles Clarke, the

Education minister said.

Tobacco cash ARTS GROUPS receive more than £1m a year in sponsorship from tobacco companies, Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary

Today's agenda Neither House is sitting.

Brown's £20,000 bill for private flights under fire

THE ROW over ministerial travel deepened yesterday when the Tories stepped up pressure on Gordon Brown to answer questions about his own

John Maples, shadow defence secretary, said he had refused to explain why he used helicopters and private jets on his September 1997 trip to Manritius and Bangkok at a cost of £20,000. "How much more is there that we do not know? Taxpayers have a right to be told what the Chancellor is spending their money on."

Margaret Beckett, the Commons Leader, accused Tory MPs of waging a "phoney cam-paign" and asking "nit-picking, mischief-making and costly questions"

The Prime Minister's official spokesman has previously indicated the Government would refuse to answer questions on BY SARAH SCHAEFER

Other allegations of minister's 'high life" have focused on Jack Cunningham, the Cabinet "enforcer", who allegedly took Concorde, although cheaper flights would have been available. There have also been allegations of ministers staying in luxury hotels and dining out.

During question time Sir George Young, shadow Commons leader, said Mr Brown's "continued refusal" to answer parliamentary questions on the matter were, far from "diminishing the embarrassment to the Government, actually increasing it". Replying, Mrs Beckett listed answers the Chancellor and other Treasury ministers had given to questions on ministerial travel. "The suggestion that the Chancellor has been reluctant to give answers does not stand."

'More police does not equal less crime'

PAUL BOATENG, the Home Office Minister, accused the Opposition of playing "party political games" after Tories and Liberal Democrats said the Government was running down the police service.

He said increasing police numbers did not automatically cut the crime rate and it was time the debate moved on from "sterile and simplistic" arguments over the number of officers on the beat. Opening a Commons debate on police funding, Mr Boateng said an Audit Commission report had

concluded that success in solving crime did not depend sole-

POLICE FUNDING BY PAUL WAUGH

ly on the number of officers available.

"An even more telling finding from the commission was that some forces with the biggest reduction in numbers of police officers have also recorded

some of the largest increases

in the percentage of crimes de-The minister admitted the public felt reassured by the number of police on the streets, but stressed that new technology meant that there were better ways to use public funds.

THE HOUSE

age fraud," he said



Peer calls for mosque inquiry

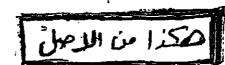
THERE SHOULD be an investigation into claims that a "terrorist cell" was being rum within the Muslim mosque at Finsbury Park, London, said Lord Rowallan, a Tory peer. He demanded the extradition of Abu Hamza leader of the Supporters of Shariah group.

Prescott warns councils on tax

JOHN PRESCOTT, the Deputy Prime Minister, warned council leaders not to impose massive council tax hikes in April. insisting the 1999 to 2000 settlement for English local authorities was "the most generous for seven years". Government grant support will rise £2bn to £39.5bn, while council spending will increase to £50.6bn. An extra £30m will ensure that authorities with responsibilities for education get a grant rise of at least 1.5 per cent

Lords 'should list interests'

THE REGISTER of Peers Interests should be made mandatory after the failure of Lord Hoffmann a law lord, to disclose his links with a charity connected with Amnesty International in a hearing on the General Pinochet extradition case, Lord Mariesford, a Tory peer,



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Bishop challenges 'Attila the Nun' over church bill



BY STEPHEN GOODWIN Scotland Correspondent

SCOTLAND'S MOST senior female cleric will be questioned by a bishop today after allegations of financial mismanage ment of church funds.

The future of the Very Rev Miriam Byrne, who has been dubbed "Attila the Nun" by parishioners for her "Thatcherlike" approach, is in doubt after a troubled start to her tenure as provost of St Paul's Cathedral in Dundee, which started only last September.

Ms Byrne, the first woman in Britain to take charge of an Anglican cathedral, is at the centre of complaints about a £19,000 overspend on improvements at the rectory, including the unauthorised installation of an Aga cooker

The twice-married ex-nun has been the subject of a slew of complaints since she replaced Dr Michael Bunce, who resigned after being convicted of embezzling £44,000 from a charity for the unemployed.

The Right Rev Neville Chamberlain, the Bishop of Brechin, said the affair was "undermining Christianity". years, she next married a uni-



attendance has fallen

St Paul's, Dundee, where

Ms Byrne, 52, has a colourful past. She spent seven years as a nun with the Vocation Sisters, though never took her final yows and left to marry a former monk. Divorced after 18

time not as a Roman Catholic congregations at the cathebut as an Anglican in the Scottish Episcopal Church.

As soon as he heard of Ms Byrne's appointment, George Greig, the cathedral's honorary chaptain for 13 years. resigned and a dozen members of the congregation departed. Others refused to take communion if Ms Byrne was officiating.

In the unenviable role of arbitrator in the matter is the Right Rev Bruce Cameron. the Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney, who will hear details of the wrangle in a private

Although details are not being released, he will almost certainly be told of Ms Byrne's £9,500 last month," he said. abrasive manner. One parishover-compensated by throwing her weight around: "She is dictatorial and does not care what people think," he said, citing

changes to services. Last November, all 12 members of the vestry committee wrote to their bishop pleading for Ms Byrne's resig-

versity librarian and gradual-nation on grounds of pastoral ly returned to religious life, this breakdown. They claimed that draf have fallen from more than 100 to as low as 30 though Ms Byrne's supporters and Bishop Chamberlain dis-

pute this figure. At the end of last year it emerged that Ms Byrne had spent \$28,000 doing up the Georgian rectory, despite being given a budget of only £18,000 by the vestry. Then came another bill, mere days before

today's hearing, of 19,000 for "additional renovations". Richard Southern, a vestry committee member, said the cathedral was in deep financial trouble as a result of Ms Byrne's spending, "The cathedrai's deficit was just over

"When you have only 40 or ioner described her as "a 50 people going to church, the woman doing a man's job" who average Sunday takings are only £150, which is less than most small parish churches in Dundee. The place will go into bankruptcy."

Ms Byrne claims the whole affair is subjudice and was not replying to telephone calls yesterday. Her supporters were

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'Useless' medicine costs UK

THE NATIONAL Health Ser- By JEREMY LAURANCE vice is spending hundreds of millions on procedures that may cause more harm than good, while denying treatment to cancer patients whose lives could be prolonged, according to two studies published in the

British Medical Journal The studies suggest that if removing varicose veins and screening for cervical cancer in older women were withdrawn nd the money saved spent elsewhere more patients would

One option would be to increase spending on cancer treatment, which is half that in France and one-third that in Germany Yesterday cancer experts called for a new "human rights" movement to ensure all cancer patients get access to the treatment they need.

Death rates from cancer in the United Kingdom are higher than in many European countries and are directly linked to spending, according to the World Health Organisation. Five-year survival rates for ovarian cancer are 25 per cent in the UK and 40 per cent in France.

The two BMJ studies demonstrate the growing pressure on the NHS to ensure the maximum value from its £40bn budget. Although 50,000 people a year seek surgery for unsightly varicose veins there is no evidence that it improves symptoms of heavy, swollen or aching legs, according to researchers at the University of Edinburgh. From a study of 1,500 people, they found the symptoms were

and people with varicose veins were no more likely to suffer from the symptoms than those with unaffected veins. Removing varicose veins had no effect.

just as likely to occur in those

who did not have varicose veins.

versity College London, sug-

AND LOUISE JURY

gests that the NHS may also be wasting money screening older women for cervical cancer in whom the disease is rare. They say that if regular NHS screening were to stop at 50 instead of the current 64, there could be an extra 600 cases of cancer each year but a saving of one-quarter of the £132m annual cost of the programme in England.

However, although increasing numbers of health authorities are reluctant to pay for varicosevein surgery, the ethical and political consequences of trying to restrict cervical screening make change there unlikely. A spokeswoman for the National Cervical Screening Service said research was underway to investigate the benefits of screening for older women.

Figures cited at the International Congress on Anti-Cancer Treatment in Paris yesterday show wide variations in cancer survival in different countries. Patients diagnosed with colon cancer have a 36 per cent chance of surviving five years in the UK, 51 per cent in Switzerland and 60 per cent in the United States. Professor Herbert Pinedo, head of medical oncology at Vrije University in Holland, said: "The price of anti-cancer treatments is too often a target for cost-saving measures."

■ NHS screening programmes for breast and cervical cancer and foetal abnormalities should be abandoned and patients who want regular checks should pay, a consultant obstetrician at Leeds General Infirmary suggested yesterday. Mr Jim Thornton said in a report for the right-wing Institute of Economic Affairs, that the costs of nationwide programmes were not The second study from Uni- justified by the numbers of

Legal aid claims not being verified

A QUARTER of legal aid appli- BY FRAN ABRAMS cations are not backed up by evidence that claimants are entitled to the money, the government's finance watchdog

For the eighth year the Lord Chancellor's and Law Officers' departments have failed their annual health check because of discrepancies in the £597m bill for criminal legal aid. The National Audit Office (NAO) said that 26 per cent of applicants claiming legal support failed to provide the necessary paperwork. In half those cases legal aid was granted without

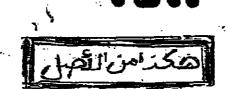
evidence of entitlement

Westminster Correspondent

istrates' courts found more errors than revealed by earlier internal checks. Civil servants had found that just 8 per cent of applicants failed to provide proof that they were entitied to legal aid.

The audit office staff found errors in calculation of contributions in four out of 10 cases.

Magistrates' courts are responsible for granting legal aid, but the Lord Chancellor's Department is monitoring it. It is also responsible for policy and legislation affecting legal NAO staff who visited mag-aid and for funding the scheme.



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al aid claims being verified

THE INDEPENDENT Friday 5 February 1999

70,000 children abused each year

MORE THAN 70,000 children a By Ian Burrell year are believed to be the victims of sex abuse, the Home Office stated yesterday, although it added that the figure could be much higher.

Paul Boateng, the Home Office minister, released the findings in a report which called for greater efforts to be made to protect children

The report concludes: "Judging by the numbers of cases reported to the police, sex offending against children may be even more prevalent than population surveys have indicated previously.

The findings coincide with reports that the convicted paedophile Robert Oliver has managed to re-establish contact with a ring of child-sex offenders. Although Oliver has agreed to remain under voluntary supervision in a secure hospital unit in Buckinghamshire, he cannot be prevented from communicating by letter or teiephone with contacts in what is described as "an extensive paedophile network".

Public concerns over child sex abuse have risen in the past 18 months after the release of a succession of paedophiles such as Oliver, who was jailed in 1985 for his part in the sexval torture and killing of 14-cear-old Jason Swift.

Yesterday's report, called Sex Offending against Children: Understanding the Risk, makes clear that the vast majority of young victims of sexual abuse are assaulted by people they know. Mr Boateng said: "Sex abuse by a stranger is of great concern to the public, but the report shows that individual who has a relationship based on trust with the child, is more common."

The report finds that the they are experiencing".

Home Affairs Correspondent

victims of attacks by someone from within the home are likely to suffer worse lasting damage than those suffering a one-off attack by a stranger.

Nearly 70 per cent of sex offenders attack only female victims and most act alone. About a third of all sex crime is committed by adolescents, and up to 5 per cent by women, most of whom act in partnership with a male offender. Some 20 per cent of sex abusers go on to reoffend, which is a smaller recidivist figure than for most

types of crimes. According to police estimates there are 72,600 cases of child sex abuse a year. But more detailed research within five forces found 4,369 such offences in a year, despite there being only 3,957 offenders convicted in the entire country in the 12-month period.

The report notes: "Official statistics not only underestimate greatly the number of sexual offences against children, they also have the potential to mislead in terms of patterns of sexual crime."

The number of people being cautioned or convicted for sex offences declined steadily between 1985 and 1995. But the report says this "could be attributed to the fact that the age of child victims is now being recorded less often and so the true figure is even more

masked than it was previously". The authors call for greater vetting of adults who work with young people, and state that "children need to be educated abuse within the family, or by an on how to respond to adults who what they should do if friends tell them 'secrets' about abuse



A slag heap at Hinksey Sidings, near Oxford, where residents say work is causing unacceptable noise, vibrations, dust and fumes

John Taylor, News Group

£16bn of rail investment at risk in planning row

RAILTRACK HAS warned that By Philip Thornton £16bn of investment needed to revitalise the railways will be jeopardised if it loses a test case on whether it needs planning permission for major work.

John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister and Transport supremo, will have to take a decision that could put the brakes on a range of investment schemes. There could be implications for other industries such as gas, electricity and water, according

to one legalexpert. Two residents have won the right to appeal against Rail-track's decision to start work on seek to abuse them, and on the 3bn upgrade of the London-Glasgow West Coast line without going through a long

Transport Correspondent

Residents of Primrose Hill, in London, are furious that Railtrack has avoided the need to assess the environmental impact of the work. They say it will cause pollution and noise and release asbestos and vermin.

Railtrack said that if Mr Prescott decided against it the West Coast project would be delayed, as it would have to apply for permission to every council along the line. It would jeopardise projects such as Thameslink 2000, the upgrade of the East Coast line and the Great Western electrification.

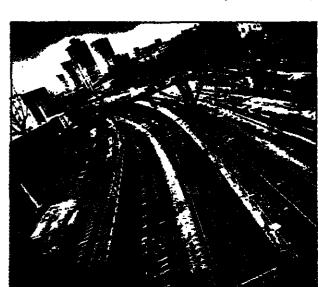
did not need permission, as it had "permitted development rights". But there would be serious implications if it lost. "Primrose Hill is the test case and if that goes against us we would consider how to progress with work on the railway. It would slow up the work, because if we had to apply for permission every time we wanted

spent on the railway." Mr Prescott faces a dilemma: as Transport Secretary he wants to revive rail travel, but as Environment Secretary he has to oversee the fair running of the planning process. Helen Bryan, A spokeswoman said its head of a residents' associa-

John Prescott will be sitting as judge and jury on a matter integral to his transport policy." An expert in planning law, Michael Purdue, of London's City University, said a ruling

against Railtrack could have implications for other utilities and industries, if Railtrack's permitted development rights were interpreted narrowly by either Mr Prescott or a court. to do maintenance work it Railtrack faces a separate

would slow down investment threat over its use of railway land on the edge of Oxford as a stockpile. Residents, backed by MPs, say work at Hinksey Sidings is causing unacceptable noise, vibrations, dust and fumes. Oxfordshire County the council, Chris Cousins, Council has issued a direction chief planning officer, said: legal advice showed the work tion, said: "We are concerned which, if confirmed by Mr "The issue that several people accountable to Parliament."



Lines near Primrose Hill, where Railtrack is facing a test case over planning permission

Prescott, would force Railtrack have raised is whether it is right to apply for planning permis- that a private company which sion. If it was turned down it is accountable to its sharecould claim compensation from holders should take advantage of rights that were given to nationalised industries that were

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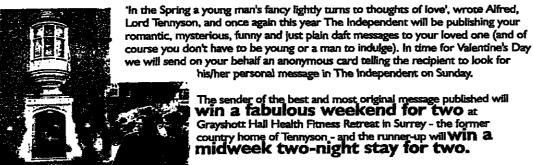
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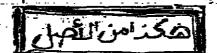
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Clintons fail to prevent breach of Chelsea's privacy

in Washington

WRATEVER BILL and Hillary Clinton's differences, they have been constantly united on one priority: the protection of their only daughter's privacy. So when they discovered that People magazine, one of the socalled "supermarket tabloids". was planning a cover story on Chelsea and the motherdaughter relationship, they did

their best to discourage it. But late on Wednesday, they had to admit defeat, and in a move without precedent in their six years at the White House, the First Couple issued a pained statement of protest against a specific pub-lication. "Unfortunately, despite personal appeals with respect to her privacy and her security from her parents, People has chosen to run the story," it said. "We deeply regret and are profoundly saddened" by the decision.

People, owned by Time Warner, was unapologetic. Its managing editor, Carol Wallace, said: "Over the years











Chelsea is nearly 19 years old and a poised young adult. We feel that because she is an eyevitness to the family drama and historical events unfolding

around her, she is a valid journalistic subject." For Hillary, but especially for

consequence of the Lewinsky affair. Chelsea is a secondyear medical student at Stanford University in California and her closeness to both parents has long been evident, as has their concern to shield

to join the campaign trail, but have gradually loosened the leash, relying on what those familiar with the British tabloids would find the remarkable restraint of the US media. Parental calls for her to be left

note about a boyfriend. Cheisea, meanwhile, regu-

larly accompanied her narents on foreign trips, most recently to China. Last year, she also travelled with Hillary on her African tour, a trip that marked her from the limelight. During alone when she went to college a debut of a kind into public life. they crossed the White House

media's respect for Chelsea's the 1996 presidential camprivacy may be the cruellest paign, they rejected her pleas heeded with only the odd diary mours, and finally the confircopter the day after her is ther's mation, of the President's affair with a woman only five years older than his daughter, the media's restraint started to break down. The poignant pictures of Chelsea, walking handin hand between her parents as

confession, were taken as symbolic - Cheisea was holding the family together.

Such public appearances and her spontaneous move to Martha's Vineyard when the unhappy First Couple arrived tabloids the opening they want-ed. Not only was Chelsea now legally an adult, but she was taking a political role. She was

fair game. A barrier was broken by the tabloid New York Post, which printed a story in autumn about Chelsea breaking up with her "first serious boyfriend" and seeking counselling as a consequence of her father's troubles. The broadsheet papers and television continued to steer away, and appeared embarrassed rather than liberated by People's decision to

publish, burying reports of the

Clintons' protest downpage. The effect of the Lewinsky scandal on Chelsea has been hinted at by the President's half-brother, Roger, who said she had been "deeply shaken" by the scandal, "like Hillary". ■ The Senate reconvened yesterday for what is widely expected to be the last stretch of the impeachment trial. With 12 February set as the provisional date for the final vote, leaders on both sides insisted their prime objective was to "bring

US to be sued for Sudan bombing

forced to acknowledge that it mistakenly attacked a factory in Sudan with cruise missiles last year, after the threat of legal Sudanese owner.

The US struck a pharmaceuticals plant in the Sudanese capital, Khartoum, and a camp in Afghanistan last August after presented their case this week bombs at its embassies in to the Permanent Select Com-Salaam, Tanzania. It said that House of Representatives, said Osama bin Laden, and that other US government agen-the plant in Khartoum manucies, but had been rebuffed. the plant in Khartoum manufactured chemical weapons.

The strikes caused enormous controversy since they came on the day that Monica Lewinsky gave evidence on her affair with President Bill that the White House was seeking to distract attention.

The owner of the plant, Saleh Idris, has asked the US assets and to compensate him he says was a legitimate pharmaceuticals factory.

"We'd like to settle this peacefully," said John Scanlon, who represents Mr Idris in New York. But a legal action was under preparation, he said.

Mr Idris has retained the Washington law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer Feld, the same firm which employs Vernon Jordan, who gave evidence in defence of Mr Clinton in the legal case would be almost unprecedented, and could have major implications for Mr Clinton and for US foreign policy.

Mr Idris, who is also an adviser to Saudi Arabia's largest hank, has retained Kroll Associates, the world's leading firm of private investigators, to examine the evidence. Mr Scanlon said it proves that there was no chemical weapons plant in the factory, that it had never bethere were no links between Mr Idris and Mr bin Laden or the Iraqi government.

The US said it found traces

also conducted their own labo-The US has never provided evidence of links between Mr

bin Laden and Mr Idris. Mr Idris's representatives Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es mittee on Intelligence of the US both targets had links to the a US government source. Mr man they blamed for bombs, the Scanlon said they also asked to renegade Saudi millionaire meet representatives from

Mr Idris has millions of dol-

lars of assets in Bank of America in London, which have been frozen by the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control on instructions from the White Clinton, raising accusations House Bank of America would not comment on Mr Saleh but said that their operations in London were subject to US jurisdiction. The US Treasury to apologise, to unfreeze his also refused to comment on Mr Idris, but said that some asset for damage to the factory, which freezes apply outside America to US financial institutions.

The British government has fewer concerns about Mr Idris than Washington. He is banned from entering the US, but travels freely to and from London

The British ambassador to Sudan had also visited the pharmaceuticals plant, and British sources have been highly sceptical of the US attack.

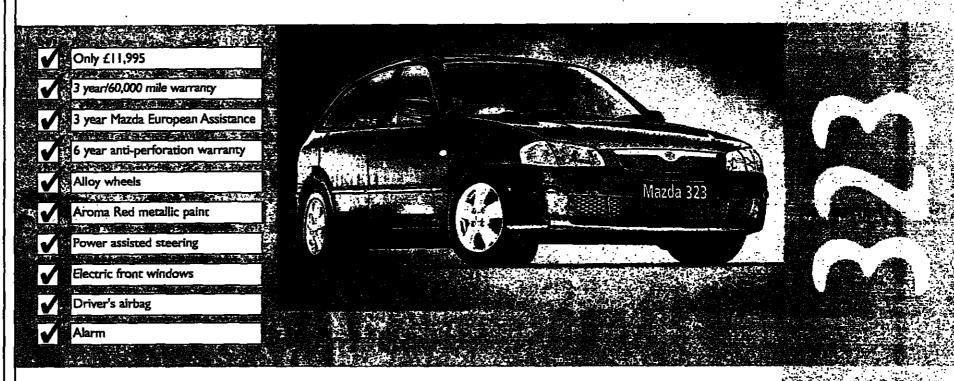
At the time of last year's strike, there was an argument Senate impeachment trial. A within the Administration as to whether the Sudanese plant was a legitimate target. The US said after the strike that the facility was a Sudanese government factory, but corrected this when it became clear that it had belonged to Mr Idris since April One US government source told The Independent that it was a case of "right country, wrong building".

The US government was it-self divided over the attacks. longed to Mr bin Laden and that The factory was reportedly added to the target list at the last moment. America had wanted to hit the building for some time, and the embassy of chemicals that could be used bombings provided a rational to make VX nerve gas at the said the government official.



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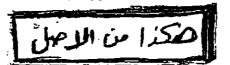




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King Hussein flies home as his health deteriorates fast

BY PATRICK COCKBURN

KING HUSSEIN was returning home to Jordan in critical condition last night after the failure of a second bone-marrow transplant operation in the

United States on Tuesday.
A statement issued by his private physician said the 63year-old monarch's condition "has become critical due to the failure of the function of internal organs". The King has the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, ota, since 25 January for a recurrence of non-Hodgkin's

One Jordanian official said King Hussein would be taken on arrival at the airport this morning to an Amman military hospital, known as the King Hussein Medical City, for close his health was deteriorating.

"His body has apparently refused the bone cells taken from his family members and transplanted into his body," the official said. King Hussein had returned

for more treatment in the US last month only hours after naming his eldest son, 37-year-old Prince Abdullah, as his successor. Abdullah replaced King Hussein's brother, Hassan, 51, who had been crown prince for

It emerged yesterday that at the height of the battle for the succession, Prince Hassan's telephone calls were being bugged by the Jordanian security services.

nave started four months ago, when King Hussein was undergoing chemotherapy in Amerca. Information from the telephone tapping was passed to the King. In late January, when he re-

turned to Jordan and switched the succession, the King accused Prince Hassan of meddling with senior appointments in the army and spreading Prince Hassan over his dissmears against Queen Noor and her children.

The allegation that Prince Lassan's telephone calls were being intercepted while he was nominally ruling Jordan sug-

Jordan's former Crown Prince Hassan, left, and King Hussein, who resented his brother's attempts to act like a monarch Jamal Nasrallah

royal family went far deeper than was hitherto realised. It would also demonstrate how far he was from controlling the real levers of power.

Samir Battikhi, the head of Jordanian intelligence, paid several visits to the Mayo Clinic to report on Prince Hassan's behaviour as regent during the King's stay there.

A sign of the anger felt by missal as heir to the throne has come in a report in the al-Bayan newspaper that he It says that when the King

told him of his decision he de-

clared: "Shoot me if you think that I was unfaithful."

King Hussein clearly felt resentment at what he saw as Prince Hassan's attempts to act like a king before his own death. In a letter altering the succession, the monarch wrote bitterly of how his "small family was offended by slanders and falseboods, and I refer here to my wife and children".

The King was particularly concerned about "the politicisation and fragmentation of the army" under Prince Hassan. He complained: "What made me sleepless for the first time in my life is that I was asking myself, Why is there insis-

tence on change in the army?" The King cancelled orders for the retirement of some officers

and the promotion of others. In fact Prince Hassan's motives for trying to secure his position with the army may have been rather different. One Jordanian observer said: "Towards the end of last year, the White House told two Israeli journalists the King was dying. Hassan

believed what they wrote." The former crown prince apparently discounted more optimistic reports of his brother's health and decided to make establishment in order to secure a smooth succession.

realised how far his relations with his brother had deteriorated. Intelligent, industrious and highly educated, he is also a humorous man. Knowing that it was conventional wisdom among Jordanians that he had no support among the army, the people, the Jordanian tribes or the Palestinians, who make up

more than half the population,

he joked: "It seems the only

people who like me are Filipina

maids and Armenian hairserious riots in Ma'an, in southern Jordan, while Prince Hassan was out of the country, he

Prince Hassan may not have is reported to have told the King with a laugh: "I leave the country for three days and look what happens." He is once said to have de-

scribed the King to his face as "your royal irrelevancy". A Jordanian analyst said: "The King was sensitive to the suggestion that he was froth. while his brother was sub-

Jokes which might have been acceptable to the King when he was in good health and in Amman, might have looked more menacing when related second hand to a sick man undergoing treatment thousands of miles away.

Civil war fears in East Timor

CARLOS BELO, the Roman By Richard Lloyd Parry Catholic bishop who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his work to threaten the people," he in East Timor, said vesterday that the occupied territory should wait at least 10 years for a vote on its independence from Indonesia, amid growing anxieties about civil war.

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"Only through a plebiscite can we know who is for Indonesia, and who is against Indonesia," Monsignor Belo said at his home in the East Timorese capital, Dili. He said that a period of between 10 and 15 years would be necessary for a reconciliation between proindependence guerrillas and armed militias who support full integration with Indonesia. In the past few weeks, the latter have launched violent attacks on villages, creating thousands of refugees.

Despite continuing denials by the government of Jakarta funded and armed by Indoand senior army officers, the bishop said that the militias were being armed by the Indonesian military. "There are a pretext for the invasion by some civilians who have arms

said. "Naturally, it is coming from the army. It is better to fight with diplomacy, with intelligence, with discussion, rather than fighting with guns."

East Timor was invaded by Indonesia in 1975, and annexed a year later in a brutal occupation which has cost up to 200,000 lives. Jakarta had always resisted international calls for its withdrawal until an unexpected announcement last week, when the government said it might give the territory its independence next year.

The announcement has raised fears of a repeat of 1975 when the territory's Portuguese administration suddenly quit their colony after a coup in the Portuguese capital. Lisbon. Pro-Jakarta groups, nesia, fought skirmishes with the majority pro-independence forces. The fighting was used as

Getty to give 'stolen' art back to Italy

THE J PAUL Getty Museum in BY ANDREW GUMBEL Los Angeles has volunteered to in Los Angeles return three artworks to Italy after finding evidence that the pieces - a Greek vase, a torso of Mithras and a Roman bust -

were probably stolen. The gesture by one of the richest private collections, which has suffered accusations of improper acquisition practices for many years, appeared to be part of a strategy by the Getty to put itself above reproach in the art market.

Although the museum has never been found guilty of knowingly acquiring stolen or illegally exported property, the extent of its buying power has raised questions about the authenticity and provenance of its collections.

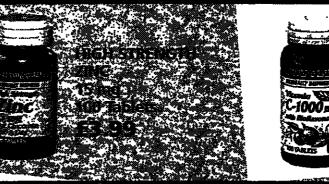
The most valuable of the

in Los Angeles

three pieces is a terracotta kylix or vase, by the Greek potter Euphronius, which reached the Getty in pieces from 1983 to 1990 from a variety of private collections. Italian experts alleged that the piece was illegally excavated from the Etruscan site of Cerveteri, north of Rome, Marion True, the Getty's curator of antiquities, said she had been unconvinced by evidence from Italian government investigators, but came to the conclusion

after her own investigation. The 2nd-century marble torso of Mithras has been traced to the Italian Giustiniani family. The Roman head, bought in New York, appears to have come from an excavation at Venosa

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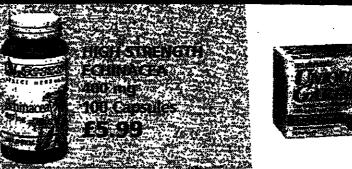


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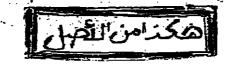


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Now Kosovo cannot even bury its dead



Kosovo Albanians abandoning Rogovo, where 24 people were shot dead by Serbs last week

A BLUE refrigerated police BY RAYMOND WHITAKER truck stood outside the morgue in Pristina at Pristina hospital yesterday, its rear doors backed up against the building to prevent anyone looking inside. The vehicle was being watched by a Land Cruiser full of monitors from the

Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and an armed Serbian policeman, who told us to clear off as soon as we arrived. It was easy to see why the

relatives of the 45 ethnic Alba-

nians killed in the Racak massacre three weeks ago had chosen to wait in a smokefilled office in Stimlje, 18 miles away, for news of what was happening to the remains. The story they had to tell demon-strated not only the hostility and indifference of the Serbian authorities to Kosovo's Albanian majority, but the gulf that will have to be bridged at the peace talks due to start tomorrow in

Mahmut Mahmuti, the 75vear-old hazha (imam) of the mosque at Bacak, a short distance from the town, said he

Wednesday to see the police commander at Stimlje. The previous day villagers had gone up to Pristina in an unsuccessful attempt to confront the authorities and get back the 40 bodies taken away shortly after the massacre; now, said the commander, 29 of them had been brought to Stimije in a police truck, ready for burial.

"I objected," said Mr Mahmuti, twisting his hands, with two fingers missing from the left, on his walking stick. "I said we didn't want to bury the victims separately, but all at the same time and place." Sylejman Halili, 67, a village

head man, said the Serbian

judge in the case, Danica Marinkovic, had told them that relatives would have to identify the dead at Stirnlje police station. This was contrary to the agreement that the OSCE thought it had brokered the previous day, that identification would be done in Pristina as

part of an "orderly and dignified" procedure for disposal of the remains.

The judge said that if we didn't turn up at the police station at 10am to identify the bodies, the authorities would bury them as they chose," said Mr Halili. "We don't want anything to do with the police at Stimlje - they were the people who killed our relatives.

"They said the rest of the people were terrorists from outside the village, but I told them we had a list of 41 people, with their names, addresses,

dates of birth, everything." The families contacted Michael Pedersen, the OSCE official leading mediation ef-forts, and yesterday morning the truck returned to the provincial capital with its grisly cargo still inside - in Stimle it is rumoured that 12 of the bodies are so mutilated that

identification is impossible. Late yesterday the OSCE said talks were still going on. but it is likely to be several more days before the victims of the massacre at Racak are finally

"It takes time to dig 40 graves, and we haven't even settled yet on where exactly they will be," said Mr Mahniuti, who lost his own home in the

Few have dared to return to the village, and it is difficult for the fearful Albanian community to stay in touch with the widedispersed families as the wrangling goes on.

"This is harassment of the living as well as the dead," said one grieving relative, and they all exclaimed in agreement.

Climbdown by Serbia stops strikes

SERBIA'S PARLIAMENT last BY RUPERT CORNWELL night voted overwhelmingly to send a delegation to the Kosovo France announced it would peace talks at Rambouillet near Paris, but made it clear that there would be fierce resistance to Nato plans to station

any settlement. The 227 to 3 majority averts and clears the way for negotiations to start as scheduled tomorrow between Belgrade and the political and military representatives of the ethnic Albanians who constitute 90 per cent of Kosovo's population.



Marjanovic: The Serbs will defend themselves'

But discussions on the draft agreement drawn up by Western mediators will be anything but plain sailing. Last night Serbian government officials said that Kosovo must remain part poses, removes the province from Belgrade's control.

20,000 to 30,000 Nato force, final details of which are being worked out in national capitals and at the alliance's Brussels headquarters. As President Bill Clinton confirmed that Washington was "seriously considering" dispatching troops, and IN BRIEF

An even greater obstacle

could be the deployment of the

provide 5,000 men. Mirko Marjanovic, the Serbian Prime Minister, vowed that if Nato entered Kosovo, it troops in the province to police would have to fight its way in. We will defend ourselves with all available means," Mr Marthe threat of Nato air strikes, janovic warned. Those sentiments were echoed by Vojislav Seselj, the leader of the ultra-nationalist Radical party and an ally of the Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic.

Mr Milosevic is unlikely to go to Rambouillet, not least for fear of being served with a warrant for alleged war crimes in Bosnia and Kosovo. But if yesterday's TV coverage of the parliamentary session Belgrade when criticism of him was censored from the broadcast - is any indication, he will be very much in charge of his delegates, albeit from afar

Seeking to overcome deep misgivings in Congress over a further commitment of American troops, Mr Clinton insisted that the fighting must be halted when it could still be contained at an "acceptable cost". Otherwise, "and unless we defuse the ethnic hatred in that region, Kosovo can embroil us in a much larger conflict".

The Pentagon wants to limit

the US contingent to 2,000, but the European allies would preof Serbia - despite the fact that fer double that figure, to guar-the plan, to all intents and purintervention. It would be under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Jackson the British commander of the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps. But to reassure US public opinion, officials point out that ultimate control of the operation would be in the hands of General Wesley Clark, the American supreme commander of allied forces in Europe.

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Pilot on trial over cable-car deaths

THE TRIAL began yesterday of a United States Marine pilot who last February crashed into cables in the Italian Alps, sending a cabin crashing to the ground and killing 20. The court-martial of Captain Richard Ashby, 31, opened at the Marine base of Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.

Six die in refrigerated meat lorry THE OWNER of a meat distribution company in

Johannesburg and five of his staff were found dead yesterday, locked in their refrigerated truck. Police believe the men had been robbed and locked in the truck, where they froze to death or suffocated.

ITALY'S CONSERVATIVES won a major victory over the left yesterday when parliament blocked a provision to allow a woman to use sperm from a man other than her

Catholics block sperm donor plan

partner to become pregnant. The issue had pitted centrist Catholics against their partners in Italy's government. **Greeks want Victory statue back**

THE GREEK island of Samothrace wants France to return

the winged marble statue of Victory which has been in the Louvre since 1963. "Her home is on Samothrace," the island's mayor, Giorgos Hanos, said in a letter written to the European Commissioner Christos Papoutsis.

Nigerian suspected of cannibalism A NIGERIAN man has been arrested allegedly in possession of roasted human limbs and bones, local newspapers reported. Police arrested him after residents heard the cries of a woman. He had been living under a bridge in Lagos for several years.

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Can Mir turn night into day? Joking lessons

By Charles Arthur Technology Editor

ASTRONOMERS WATCHED the skies anxiously yesterday as cosmonauts on board the Russian Mir space station tried, but failed, to unveil a mirror 25m(83ft) across to reflect sunlight on to darkened parts of the Earth.

An early hitch saw the mirror catch on a radio aerial. The plastic parasol, covered with aluminium, began to unfold in the early afternoon, but then jammed again, stopping the test for the day.

The mirror is designed to work like an artificial moon. It was meant to reflect a beam of sunlight about 8km (5 miles) across on to several regions in Russia and other former Soviet republics before reaching Germany and the Czech Republic. It would not have been visible in Britain.

It is designed as a prototype for much larger models that could illuminate northern parts of the Earth.

Russian Mission Control said the experiment might go ahead today if they could resolve the problem.

The Space Regatta Consortium, principally backed by the Russian company Energia, has funded the experiment. The designers suggested that a series of mirrors - or one giant mirror – could harness sunlight to overcome darkness and boost agriculture by lengthening the day.

However, that poses the huge problem of controlling the mirrors' angle while the Earth

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LIGHTING UP THE DARK SIDE OF THE EARTH Zone of Darkness Ammassallik THE FUTURE? o Longyearbyen Poltava Saratov Barrow Vorkuta * Saratov Dickson Novyyport * e Igarka e Nordvík Barrow Karaganda

and the Sun are moving. Tiny glare from the skies. However variations would mean huge differences in what part of

Earth was illuminated.

a spokeswoman called the idea "ridiculous rumours".

Astronomers were less The experiment had trig-gered an avalanche of dra-bright that it's impossible to matic reports, many of which miss," said John Kelly Beatty, described the mirror as a senior editor at Sky & Tele-"second moon" that would scope magazine.

David Williams, president of those plans." the Royal Astronomical Society in Britain and profes- Russians financing the expersor of astronomy at Universi- iment will ignore their objec-

Astronomers believe that of money - taxpayers' money such bright light will serious - has been spent on building ly impede observations from new telescopes in remote ground-based telescopes.

Astronomers fear that the ty College London, said: "A lot tions and push ahead with

all beaming sunlight on to points on Earth in the middle of the night. "This situation is different

plans to put up more mirrors,

from many big space projects which are funded by countries or internationally," said Pro-

Hundreds arrested in China

BY CHRISTIAAN VIRANT in Peking

CHINA HAS tightened its grip on the north-western province of Xinjiang, transferring a team of crack troops to a city rocked by riots in 1997 and arresting hundreds of suspected "terrorists" and religious militants.

Some 1,000 troops were transferred to Yining city, the capital of Xinjiang's Yili reeion, last month, the Xinjiang Legal Daily said yesterday.

Xinjiang, home to Turkishspeaking Uighurs, has been rocked by rioting since the mid-Nineties. Muslim Uighur militants have agitated for an independent East Turkestan in Xinjiang, which borders Afghanistan, Pakistan and three former Soviet republics.

Yesterday, Amnesty International accused Peking of stepping up persecution of Uighurs. (Reuters)

for Germans

EUROPEAN TIMES

inar: the tables arranged at three sides of the rectangle. the instructor waving his arms in front of diagrams on a screen, The participants, 19 men and women predominantly in middle age, have each paid DM590 (£209) to better themselves on this one-day intensive course at a Munich hotel. By 5pm tonight, they hope to leave the room as different persons. ready for the harshness of

German life. It is 9am, and the instructor, Matthias Pöhm, begins with a challenge. "The new government has decreed that every German family must consume 20mg of hashish a week," he says. "Can you think of a suitable question to ask the government spokesman? For instance: why only 20mg?"

The pupils scratch their heads. "Will the cost be tax deductible?" asks the lady who during the week works as a tax inspector. "Can those allergic to hash take cocaine instead?" ventures a salesman.

The ice has been broken, the class is on a roll, everyone laughs. On to the next exercise. The participants are asked to write down the name of the person they hate most, catalogue two of their worst flaws, and construct a line of attack. This, after all, is a selfdefence class. However, the weapons are exclusively verbal. The students are here to be kitted out with an armoury of one-liners, cheeky ripostes, biting sarcasm and devastating put-downs.

In a society where charm is for wimps, apology a sign of weakness and bullying an accepted form of behaviour. aggressive verbal skilis are often deployed in everyday skirmishes. But doing it with wit - now that is groundbreaking stuff. Mr Pöhm, one of five such teachers in the German-speaking world, knows he is playing with fire. and has been accused of dragging his people too fast into the humour equivalent of

ly giving my students a weapon," he says. "How they use it is their business." Mr Pöhm, a 39-year who changed to this field because he found communicating with machines somewhat limiting, is a man on a mission. "Perhaps there is not

the nuclear age. "I am mere-

enough laughter in Germany," he says. "It is against that, that I'm fighting." Sometimes, it is an uphill

IT LOOKS like any other sem-struggle. The first attempt at irony falls flat, as a student tries the unconventional in confronting her imaginary enemy: "Nora, don't you think you should be a little less arrogant?"

"Not quite there," the instructor declares.

The rest are not very funny, either. The bile pours, but true wit is in short supply. Never mind. Mr Pohm has classified every kind of social atrocity, and devised the corresponding deterrent, or in-

deed counter attack. All you need to do is learn them by heart, and practise to improve the speed of delivery. After lunch, the teacher lets us into the secret of the "exaggerated response"

Irony, he explains, is rare in Germany, self-irony practically unheard of. Nineteen pairs of eyes

widen. "What you do." Mr Pöhm slowly explains, "is take on the criticism, amplify it and throw it straight back."

The lesson on self-deprecating humour proved to be The Independent's finest hour. "You never listen," came the mock charge. "What did you say?" whimpered your correspondent, to squeals of delight all round.

There were, roughly, a dozen different ways to disarm an aggressor with a being the German language, can actually run to four lines, crowned inevitably by the verb at the end. It is worth waiting for, none the less. As the 19 participants spar with one another, one can detect in their eyes an intoxicating rush of adrenalin, a feeling of barriers being transcended by a mere curve of the lip.

It is five o'clock, time to put away the pens, retract those razor-sharp tongues, and face the bleak world outside. Mr Pohm exhorts his pupils to revise for half an hour three times a week, puts in a plug for his book - two hundred pages of come-backs and double entendres - and the class is dismissed. Dr Albrecht Bender, a

patent lawyer who has just spent DM590 on his quantum leap to a new consciousness, former software engineer work. "It has been a very useful course," he says. "Now I must concentrate on the practical side of what I've learnt, I will revise, work slowly, and maybe, in three months' time. I will be ready to incorporate some of this into my personality."

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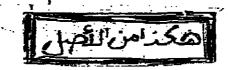
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BUSINESS

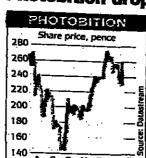
BRIEFING

OECD tells France to speed reform

THE FRENCH government must speed up structural economic reforms and cut its excessive budget deficit, says the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Its report expresses particular concern about the scale of the gap in financing future pensions.

The OECD says French unemployment remains much too high, partly because people can get more on benefits than in work, and partly because the minimum wage is too high. The report says the law to cut working hours may not create extra jobs if it adds to employers' costs. Growth of 2.4 per cent is forecast this year, followed by 2.6 per cent in 2000. But the OECD expects unemployment to remain above 11 per cent until next year.

Photobition drops Wace for SVC



SHARES IN Photobition rose 28p to 260p yesterday after the group abandoned its £80m bid for Wace, the loss making imaging and printing business, and opted to buy Service Visual Communications (SVC), a privately owned supplier of graphics to the exhibition and museum market, for £11m. Photobition's chairman Eddie

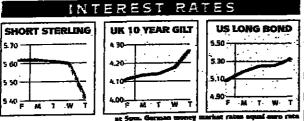
Marchbanks refused to raise the initial offer for Wace, which last week recommended that shareholders accept a rival bid of 70p from the US. Photobition's offer of 21.93 shares for 100 Wace shares was worth just over 51p a share when it lapsed. Wace shares were down 1p yesterday at 69p.

Swan Hill reveals bid approaches

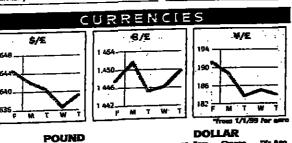
SWAN HILL, the Surrey housebuilding and property group, yesterday became the latest small company to reveal it had received unsolicited approaches that could lead to an offer. Its shares closed 23p up at 68.5p, adding £15m to its market value. Analysts said Swan Hill would fit well with small housebuilders expanding in the South, such as Crest Nicholson and Wainhomes. It returned to the black last year, posting a profit of £8.8m on turnover of £88.3m.

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PTSE SmallCap	2201.40	18.90	· 0.87	2793.80	1834.40	3.58
FISE Fledgling	1209,60	9.10	0.76	1517.10	1046.20	4,47
FTSE AIM	828.10	1.40	0,17	1146.90	761.30	1,20
FTSE Eurotop 100		2.04	0.07	3079_27	2018,15	2,15
FTSE Eurotop 300	1210.65	1.49	0,12	1332.07	880.63	2.00
Dow Jones	9324.84	41.71	-0.45	9547.96	7400.30	1.65
Nikkei	14086.85	-74.46	-0.53	17352.35	12787,90	1:03
Hang Seng	9438.65	18.80	0.20	11926.16	6544.79	3.73
Dax	5077.85	-7.81	-0.15	6217.83	3833.71	1.69
S&P 500	1257.84	-14.15	-1.11	1283.64	923.32	1,25
Nasdag	2449.30	-43.9B ·	-1.76	2533.44	1357.09	0,28
Toronto 300	6691.00	-30.71	-0.46	7837.70	5320.90	1.58
Brazil Bovespa	8545.53	-124.18	-1.43	12339.14	4575.69	7,44
Belgium Bel20	3458.72	18,25	0.53	3713.21	2585.74	2,05
Amsterdam Exch	531.27	4.15	0.79	600.65	366,56	1.85
France CAC 40	4167.42	-21,42	-0.51	4404.94	2681,21	1,94
Milan MIB30	34021.00	-171.00	-0.50	39170.00	24175.00	1,20
Madrid Roex 35	9855.40	-88.80	-0.89	10989.80	5869.90	1.89
Irish Overali	5299.67	-39.56	-0.74	5581.70	3732.57	1,51
S Korea Comp	550.15	-3.18	-0.58	651.95	277.37	0.06
Australia ASX	2940.50	22,30	0.76	2930.50	2386.70	3.12
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MONEY MARKET RATES				BOND YIELDS 10 year Yr chg Long bond Yr chg				
sdex	3 month	Yr chg	1 Year_	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bond	Tr OU
K	5.78	-1.78	5.50	-1.99	4.27	-1.85	4.29	-1.79
15	4.97	-0.65	5.12	-0.54	4,92	0.63	5,32	0.54
apan .	0.48	-0.36	0.49	-0.31	2,27	0.27	3.34	0.71
ermany		-0.42	3.02	-0.76	3.80	-1,31	4.74	-0.97



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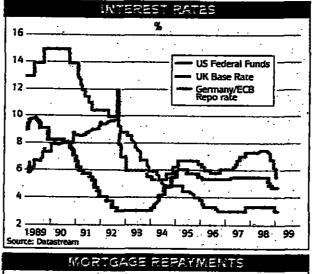
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Bank springs rate surprise with half-point cut to 5.5%



£ (interest only)								
Loan	ī Jul. 1998	1 Nov 1998	1 Dec 1998	1 Jan 1999	1 Feb 1999	Now		
£60,000	425.13	413.25	389.50	365.75	353.88	330.13		
£100,000	723.46	703.25	662.84	622.42	602.21	561.80		
£150,000	1,096.38	1,065.75	1,004.50	943.25	912.63	851.38		
Source: Hallf	800.							

THE BANK of England's deci- BY DIANE COYLE AND sion to cut interest rates to their lowest level since 1994 with an unexpectedly big fall of 0.5 percentage points set City pulses racing yesterday afternoon. But an initial surge in share prices and fall in the pound were later reversed as the mar-

kets absorbed the implications. The FTSE 100 index ended 0.4 points lower at 5.939.9 after earlier gaining more than 100 points. The pound ended little changed at 68.9p to the euro.

The half-point cut to 5.5 per cent was welcomed as a sign that the Monetary Policy Committee was ready to act swiftly if necessary. Kate Barker. Confederation of British Industry chief economic adviser, said: "This decisive move is good news for industry at a time when trading is difficult in many sectors."

Mortgage lenders greeted the move as a pleasant surprise. Jim Chadwick, marketing director for Barclays Mortgages, said: "Recent rate cuts appear to have had a positive effect on consumer confidence.

LEA PATERSON in Frankfurt

Most lenders cut mortgage rates by half a point, taking the monthly payment on a £100,000 interest-only mortgage down by £30. The fall in the typical repayment on this mortgage since rates peaked in the summer has been nearly £152. Savings rates are under review and

are likely to be cut again. Business and unions again reacted to a fall in borrowing costs by demanding another John Monks, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, said: The Bank needs to continue the downward trend next month in order to avoid recession and secure recovery in 2000,"

The Bank's statement linked yesterday's move to the inflation forecast to be published in next week's Inflation Report. It said: The Committee's latest inflation projections implied that a further reduction in interest rates was necessary to keep inflation on a path consistent with the target of 2.5 per cent."

Since the November report evidence on growth has been mixed, but inflation signs have been good. The Bank's statement was not read as a strong

hint at future rate moves. City analysts remained divided about the outlook for the economy after the lifth rate cut in five months. "The lags are such that the Bank cannot do anything now to avert a recession," said Steven Bell, UK economist at Deutsche Bank. He predicted that the next few months would bring bad news on the economy, including an

However, Neil Parker at Royal Bank of Scotland said the economy remained in good shape. He said: "This move seems to show some complacency on the part of the MPC about the inflation target. Some degree of caution is now needed or the Bank risks destabilising the economy."

upturn in unemployment.

Most analysts expect UK interest rates to fall to 5 per cent by summer, taking them closer to mainland European levels.

The European Central Bank vesterday kept interest rates on the Continent unchanged, despite growing signs of slowdown in the euro zone. Wim Duisenberg, ECB President, said there was "no significant

upward or downward pressure

on prices". However, the ECB Presi dent indicated that benchmark European interest rates could fall below their current level of 3 per cent in coming months. He said: "Recent data seem to confirm our earlier assessment that there are downside risks for upward growth and that production may have slowed down

around the turn of the year". Mr Duisenberg emphasised that the level of the euro - which has declined to \$1.13 from \$1.16 at launch - was not yet a mat ter for concern. The ECB would intervene to stabilise the currency if it was "seriously out of line with fundamentals".

Analysts said there was no chance of a further ECB rate cut until the euro strengthened. Outlook, page 19



RAC may float after Cendant veto

THE 12,000 shareholders of the BY PHILIP THORNTON RAC face the prospect of a cut in their windfall from the sale of the motoring services business after Cendant yesterday called off its takeover plan.

The American company pulled out of the £450m deal to buy RAC Motoring Services after the Department of Trade and Industry said it would force Cendant to sell Green Flag, its roadside recovery business.

The RAC said it was pursuing the options of flotation or a trade sale but a spokesman

Transport Correspondent

business would obtain a value of £450m as Cendant's price was dependent on synergies with Green Flag.

and Consumer Affairs Minister, said he accepted the view of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission that the combination of Green Flag and RAC would weaken competition.

admitted it was unlikely the may be expected to operate

Kim Howells, Competition erwise exist," he said.

"I also accept their conclusion that the proposed merger

against the public interest in that, in the supply of insured breakdown services for light vehicles, prices would be higher, service quality lower and innovation reduced compared with the situation that would oth-

The AA has a 48 per cent share of the market, with the RAC having 29 per cent and Green Flag 12 per cent. No other supplier had more than 3.5 per cent

"As these figures show, the market is highly concentrated and the merger would make it

more so," Mr Howells said. The RAC, whose chief executive is Neil Johnson, said it had been working on alternative ontions for realising value for its shareholders in case the Cen-dant deal was blocked. It said the business could be floated as early as this summer but said there were "a number" of trade and financial companies interesting in buying it.

Cendant said it pulled out because of the lost opportunity for synergies and cost savings from linking Green Flag and RAC.

reports that Bernd Pischetsrieder may be ousted as chairman of the German car maker today in a boardroom coup.

Rover fears as

BMW chief

faces the axe

The threat to Mr Pischestrieder has raised fresh concerns about the future of Rover's Longbridge plant in Birmingham. It was saved from closure last year only after unions agreed to 2,500 job losses and a £150m a year cost-saving plan brokered by the BMW

Mr Pischetsrieder, who bought Rover from British Aerospace in 1994 for £800m and has been its greatest supporter on the BMW board, is tipped to be replaced by Wolfgang Reitzle, his deputy chairman.

Although both BMW and the Quandt family, which own 45 per cent of the shares, denied that such a coup was imminent, shares in the company leapt by 11 per cent on expectations that he would be shown the door at today's meeting of the supervisory board in Munich.

The BMW supervisory board and the Quandt family are said to have lost patience with Mr Pischetsrieder, who has failed to turn Rover into profit desoite pumping £3bn into it in the past five years.

Mr Reitzle, who reluctantly accepted the job as Rover chair-Outlook, page 19 | man for a brief period following

ROVER UNIONS last night de-BY MICHAEL HARRISON manded an urgent meeting with in London its parent company BMW amid AND IMRE KARACS in Bonn

> the takeover, is known to have opposed Mr Pischestrieder's strategy for turning the ailing car maker around. He is thought much more likely to close Longbridge and switch production of a planned medium-sized car to replace the Rover 200-400 series elsewhere, possibly Hungary.

Last night Tony Woodley, chief motor industry negotiator for the Transport and General Workers' Union, expressed "great concern" about the BMW chairman's fate. "While we would be disappointed if Mr Pischestrieder leaves, we would expect - indeed we would demand - that the recent confirmation of new models and new investment, particularly at Longbridge, is honoured."

BMW confirmed that its supervisory board is to meet today but refused to comment on speculation about Mr Pischetsrieder's rumoured departure, insisting that 'personal matters" were not on the agenda.

Behind the boardroom infighting is a tussle over the strategy of the BMW group and whether it can remain independent. It has already received a merger approach from Fiat and Ford was rumoured to be preparing a bid before it unveiled its \$6.5bn takeover of Volvo.

Outlook, page 19

Wolves toasts victory in £300m Marston battle

yesterday won the battle of the brewers, taking control of Marston Thompson & Evernet its competitor's top managers a £2m-plus payoff.

The acquisition will create Britain's largest regional brewer, with three breweries, almost 1,500 pubs – mainly in the North -and sales of around £500m. The

WOLVERHAMPTON & Dudley By Francesco Guerrera

combined group will have a strong portfolio of beer brands shed with a £300m bid that could centred on Marston's Pedigree bitter and W&D's Banks's ale. W&D clinched the deal yes-

terday afternoon when its improved cash-and-paper offer of around 310p a share was accepted by almost three-quarters of Marston investors, many

W&D. The result came after a bitter two-month bid war which saw Marston make a £330m counteroffer for W&D.

W&D was supported by Greene King, another regional brewer, which agreed to buy 170 pubs in the South from the combined group for £80m. Shares in Marston, owner of the Pitcher & Piano pub chain, rose

of whom also own shares in 21.5p to 306.5p, while W&D closed 11.5p higher at 469p. The sale of Marston is set to

trigger the departure of its top dorsement of our strategy". He management. The chairman, Michael Hurdle, is expected to leave after 35 years with the company with a total payoff, including share options, of around £2m. Chief executive Nick months ago, should net 2300,000. £17m. However, W&D will have Wolverhampton plants.

managing director, said the victory was an "overwhelming ensaid the company would invest in its local pubs - which make up

Mr Thompson said the link

the bulk of its estate - in an

attempt to combat tough trading

David Thompson, W&D's to pay over £30m in fees to both Marston's failed attempt to securitise some of its pubs.

There will be around 250 job losses among the 15,000 combined workforce. Marston's headquarters in Burton-on-Trent will be closed, although the Letchet, appointed from Bass 18 would create savings of around alongside W&D's Hartlepool and

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

t base rate cut had a blue chips with ime up 101 points, at 5,939.9. However all cap indices ended e stronger as the edged ahead but high flyers, such as nich fell 79.5p to fled by New York's e & Wireless bucked ne 2 One mobile phone service now has two million customers, doubling in 13 months.

Derek Pain, page 21

NEW YORK

PROFIT-TAKING on hi-tech Nasdaq stocks led shares down on the main market, sending the Dow 56.12 points lower to 9,310.68 by late morning. Rumours that the next move in US interest rates would be up undermined confidence and the yield on the key 30-year long

Microsoft was down \$2.19 at \$164.375. Walmart was 32 cents lower at \$85.43 after a 10 per cent rise in like-for-like sales.

overnight to 5.332 per cent.

bond rose from 5.262 per cent

● TOKYO

THE NIKKEI 225 fell 0.53 per cent to close at 14,086.85 as rumours that a mid-sized life insurer was likely to fail offset interest-rate hopes and currency stability.

The dollar rallied to stand at 113.54 yen just after the market closed, against 112.87 ven in late New York, as the benchmark 10year government bond (JGB) fell sharply to yield 2.17 per cent. Speculation that the Bank of Japan could cut interest rates or take other credit-easing steps pushed down JGB yields sharply.

TAIWAN

SHARES IN Taiwan fell another 3.99 per cent yesterday sending the index down to 5,514.89, its lowest level since 5 April, 1996, as investors worried that the government would stop supporting the stock market.

The finance ministry plans to announce new plans to stabilise the market next Wednesday, just ahead of the nine-day holiday for the lunar New Year. The index fell 22 per cent last year and has fallen a further 14 per cent so far

SYDNEY

THE BENCHMARK All-Ordinaries index rose 22.3 points to 2,940.5, its second record high in two days, amid optimism on corporate profits and economic growth.

Fosters Brewing rose 2 per cent amid expectations of a 9 per cent rise in profits when it reports firsthalf results on Monday. Telstra, the leading phone company, gained 1.8 per cent. Kerry Packer's media group, Publishing & Broadcasting rose 8 per cent as it said it was mulling a part-sale of its Internet company, PBL Online, to the public. News Analysis: Everyone agrees on the need to change the world's 'financial architecture' - but how?

No easy answer to market reform

By JEREMY WARNER

SCARCELY A DAY passes without reference by some highpowered policy-maker to reform of the "global financial architecture". Last weekend, the corridors and podiums of the World Economic Forum annual conference in Davos, Switzerland, were alive with the sound of this somewhat pretentious phrase.

What does it mean? Why does this architecture, whatever it is, need reforming? And what are the chances of any substantive changes being brought about, given the perceived global nature of the problem?

The answer to these questions necessitates a small history esson. There was little understanding in the West either of the causes or consequences of the financial crisis in emerging markets when it first began to hit home in the summer of 1997.

Almost universally it was blamed on bad government and bad policy, on cronyism and corruption, and on poor accountability and transparency in the economies most effected by the flight of capital. The immediate analysis was that there had been a huge misallocation of capital by the financial markets which was being legitimately

However, as the crisis began to spread like a contagious disease from one economy to another - some of them, such as Hong Kong, apparently healthy and thriving - it became clear this was not the whole story. Was there not something fundamentally wrong with the capital markets themselves that they should boom and bust in this destructive and arbitrary way?

Perhaps, it was said with growing certainty, the problem lay in the unregulated nature of global money and capital. In all developed countries the capital markets are highly regulated: there are checks and balances that dampen their wilder excesses, there are investor compensation schemes, and there are lenders of last resort to hail out the banking system when it shows signs of cracking.

Few of these things exist in developing countries. On a economically flawed policy proglobal scale, there is no such system of regulation, and outside the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, there creditors and investors through are no institutions to act as a its aid and assistance - as the safety net. Capital flows are money lent by the IMF has unmonitored and untamed.

it is often said, is the wild west absolving the capital markets frontier of unfettered capitalism. from responsibility for their The effect of this trigger-happy actions. lawlessness has been to plunge



Robert Rubin, Michel Camdessus and Gordon Brown must battle with the speculators to keep the world economy on course

terms of population) into deep true. For instance, in no case was and pervasive recession, and led many policy makers and economists to question some of the fundamentals of the free market

So when policy makers talk of the "global financial architecture", what they tend to be referring to is its absence.

Those institutions that do exist - such as the IMF - have been subjected to unprecedented criticism. On the one hand, the IMF has been accused of imposing socially unjust and grammes on countries it has tried to help. On the other it is accused of bailing out Western av mem hack – m

Some of these criticisms are

the IMF money sufficient to bail out all Western creditors, and many have suffered catastrophic loss. In some cases, the higher interest rates imposed by the IMF have succeeded in stabilising currencies. And hardly anyone would seriously chalenge the structural economic reform the IMF has attempted to impose - generally unsuc-

part of its programmes. Even so, it is testament to the scale and persistence of the attacks that Stanley Fischer, the IMF's normally measured deputy chairman, was visibly shaking with anger and emotion as he sought to defend the IMF from its critics in Davos.

cessfully, it ought to be said - as

Nor are these doubts about the behaviour of global money, organisations as presently constructed to police it, confined to Asian and left-leaning European politicians. Even in the US, the majority of the world (in exaggerated or only partially land of the free, there is wide-

ket-based system needs to be reinforced and strengthened in order to maintain and restore financial stability.

Robert Rubin, US Treasury Secretary and before that an investment banker of 27 years question but that unfettered markets do not and cannot by their nature best deal with all needs, and that there are enormous challenges ahead for us if we are to have a market based system that fulfils its potential."

Just two years ago any such statement from a US Treasury Secretary, let alone one who had formerly been head of Goldman Sachs, would have been considered almost heresy.

So what are the remedies? As ever, there is a legion of possiagreement on any of them. So let's start with what mainstream policy makers - that is, those in the G7 countries – can agree on.

First, they agree that a single global regulator to enforce adequate standards of accountability transparency, discipline and banking supervision worldwide is a practical impossibility.

As the newly created Financial Services Authority in Britain is discovering, it is hard enough

spread acceptance that the mar- to achieve all encompassing regulation on a national level Think about the bureaucracy required to do it internationally.

Instead, Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank instructed to draw up a report for the G7 on reforming the international financial architecture, is opting for "a standing committee on global financial regulation".

What is proposed is that national regulators are brought together under a federal, umbrella organisation to agree on common best practice standards of spoervision, accountancy and transparency. In Britain, the FSA already imposes higher capital standards for bank lending to coununsound banking systems. This

Some politicians - such as Gordon Brown, the Chancellor want to go further and establish codes of conduct for macroeconomic policy too.

For instance, countries that wish to avail themselves of the benefits of capital markets might be required to operate a credible independent monetary policy. Fiscal policy would have to be conducted along lines similar

So far, so good. Even though some of these proposals interfere quite substantially with the operation of the free market system, there is a broad consensus around them. But do they go far enough?

Financial markets are very human in the way they operate, and after a severe shock, such as the one we have just been through, they are always repentant and risk averse. As things stand, they don't need to be told not to invest in high-risk However, like the compul-

sive gambler, they always even-The present frenzy in Internet As the good times roll, mar-

kets become ever more careless about analysing and weighing risk. In a recent, reflective speech on these issues, Mr Rubin called this phenomenon "reaching for yield".

The effect is to create excesses and bubbles. In the emerging markets crisis, these excesses combined with the macro-economic and structurto those agreed in the Maastricht al problems of developing coun- answers and no magic wands." longer-term target of 150.

tries to produce a fatally poisonous cocktail. Such careles fined to emerging markets. We've already mentioned the Internet boom. To this must be added Long-Term Capital Manent, which operated from the world's largest and most successful economy in an entirely unregulated way. The only figures available from LTCM were

cursory monthly profit state-

ments. Yet banks were still queu-

ing at the door to lend it money,

even though they had not the

faintest idea of who else had lent and on what terms. The lesson is that, however much regulation is put in place, the markets generally find a way round it. Markets have always been largely driven by greed and fear - no code of conduct, however robust, would be sufficient to stop these extremes

of behaviour. As a consequence, some policy makers favour more radical measures to bring markets to heel. One such proposal would be to create a world lender of last resort which would act much like national central banks in flooding regions with liquidity when problems begin to emerge. Such support would be made conditional; only countries pursuing appropriate economic policies would be availed of it. In other words, there would be a public and private insurance mechanism, based on a prequalification procedure of some

Another proposal, favoured by Gordon Brown, is an "early warning" system that would anticipate crises and allow policy makers to take evasive

However, all such solutions suffer from a basic flaw. Capital markets cannot work effectively unless creditors and investors are made to bear the conse quences of the risk they take. investment bankers call this characteristic "moral hazard". Furthermore, the vast scale of today's capital markets mean there can never be sufficient public finance to deal with the kind of crises encountered in the past two years.

Nor is there much sympathy among US policy makers for fixed exchange-rate systems, dollarisation of emerging martually return to the gaming table. kets or capital controls. So, despite all the talk of reform tries with poor policy regimes or stocks might be viewed as an what we actually end up with

of globalisation and even fewer think there is any realistic alternative to the free market system. But, as everyone knows, the free market doesn't sit easily with meddlesome policy makers. Once you start interfering with the market's freedom to take risk and allocate capital as it sees fit, you undermine many of its benefits. As Mr Rubin has said: "There are no easy

IN BRIEF

AirTouch profits rise by 54%

AIRTOUCH, the US telecoms company set to be acquired by Vodafone later this year. yesterday reported a 54 per cent rise in net income in 1998 to \$608m (£370m), with fourth-quarter profits ahead of expectations at \$130m.

Air Touch added 4.3 million subscribers last year, bringing its total to 17.6 million. The Air Touch-Vodafone deal, which is expected to close in the second half of 1999, will create a global wireless company with more than 27 million customers in 23

Scots muli GMTV

SCOTTISH MEDIA Group has confirmed it is considering a number of options in respect of its 20 per cent holding in broadcaster GMTV: "No decision has yet been taken in respect of any of these options," Scottish Media said yesterday in response to recent speculation.

In the past, Scottish Media has said it could sell its entire stake in GMTV or even buy out the other partners. Cariton and Granada also hold 20 per cent stakes in GMTV, while Walt Disney and Guardian Media Group have 25 per cent.

Oftel backs off

OFTEL, the telecoms watchdog, yesterday backed away from price-regulating the mobile phone industry, arguing that competition between the four networks was already bringing prices down. However, small telecoms companies reacted with dismay to the regulator's suggestion that mobile operators should be allowed to charge retail prices when opening up their networks to other firms.

Federal advance

FEDERAL-MOGUL, the US car parts group that is considering trumping a £4br bid by rival TRW for Lucas Varity, yesterday reported a trebling in fourthquarter profits. A string of acquisitions, including the UK's T&N, helped profits climb to \$36m (£22m) from \$12m last year. The results came as a leading City analyst said a counterbid for Lucas by Federal-Mogul was "not probable" because of the high costs involved.

Too fit for AIM

FITNESS FIRST, the health club operator, plans to move to the main market from AIM next week, although it said it had no immediate plans to raise fresh capital. The news came as the company reported a doubling of fullyear profits to £2.7m and said it planned to boost its number of health clubs from 45 to 59 this year, with a

Barclays Bank PLC.

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ACCOUNT TITLE	†ANNUAL EQUIVALENT RATE (%)	*GROSS RATE (%PA.)
BUSINESS PREMIUM ACCOUNT (Rates also apply to Farmers Premium Account.)		
£250,000 +	2.651	2.625
£100,000 - £249,999	2.524	2.500
£25,000 - £99,999	2.269	2,250
£2,000 - £24,999	1.762	1.750
£100 - £1,999	1.382	1.375
HIGH INTEREST BUSINESS ACCOUNT		
£250,000 +	4.318	4.250
£100,000 - £249,999	4.189	4.125
£25,000 - £99,999	3.932	3.875
£10,000 - £24,999	3.418	3.375
£2,000 - £9,999	2.651	2.635
CLIENTS PREMIUM ACCOUNT		
£1 million +	3.803	3.750
£250,000 - £999,999	3.675	3.625
£100,000 - £249,999	3.546	3.500
£25,000 - £99,999	3.163	3.125
£10,000 - £24,999	2,906	2.875
BARCLAYS COMMUNITY ACCOUNT (An interest bearing current account for clubs, charities, churches and societies.)		
£25,000+	1.635	1.625
£10,000 - £24,999	1.130	1.125
£5,000 - £9,999	0.626	0.625
£0 - £4,999	0.501	0.500
SEVEN DAY DEPOSIT ACCOUNT (Not available to new d	epositors.)	
	0,501	0.500

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Telewest to launch digital television service

TELEWEST, the cable operator, is planning to launch its digital cable television service before by NCI, the joint venture is Christmas this year.

Telewest has placed an order for 100,000 set-top box decoders from Pace Micro Technology, the electronics manufacturer. It has

by NCI, the joint venture between the US technology giants Netscape and Oracle, to run the system. The move means the entire UK cable industry will be using the same standard for digalso selected software supplied ital services.

two were discussing a merger. Analysts have long believed

executive, confirmed that Telewest was having a "very positive dialogue" with Cable & Wireless Communications about co-operating on digital services. However, he denied the

Tony Illsley, Telewest's chief that the three cable operators will have to join together. Telewest is planning to

launch a high-speed Internet service that could work through a personal computer or over the The news came as Telewest

issued operating statistics

which showed that in telephony Telewest's penetration jumped 1.9 percentage points to 31.6 per cent, while in cable television penetration was up 3.1 points to 25.1 per cent. But the "churn" rate in telephony increased to 21.5 per cent as British Telecom lured back customers.

Stakis receives £1bn bid offer

group, yesterday revealed that it has received a £1bn bid approach, believed to have come from Ladbroke, the hotels and bookmaking giant. The approach, pitched at around 140p per share, pushed Stakis shares 23 per cent higher to 137p.

Ladbroke declined to comment although analysts said it was by far the most likely bidder after it failed with two key expansion moves last year. It bought the Coral chain of bookmakers but was forced to sell them on by the regulatory authorities. It was also outbid by Bass for the Inter-Continental hotels chain.

Talks between Ladbroke and Stakis are thought to have started some weeks ago and have proceeded on an amicable basis. Ladbroke is thought to be interested in retaining the highly regarded Stakis management team, led by David Michels, chief executive. The deal would create a pow-

erful hotel and casinos group

STAKIS, the hotel and casino By Francesco Guerrera AND NIGEL COPE

> star London hotels such as the Langham Hilton to provincial casinos in smaller towns. Stakis owns 51 provincial hotels and four hotels in London including the Metropole. It also controls 22 casinos and 67 Living Well health and fitness clubs.

Ladbroke, which owns the Hilton name outside the US, has several top London hotels but just 22 mid-market Hilton hotels outside the capital. In casinos it owns some of the capital's glitzy venues such as Maxims n Kensington.

A takeover of Stakis would provide a huge windfall for the founding Stakis family, who still control around 5 per cent of the shares. The group was founded in 1942 by Sir Reo Stakis, a Greek Cypriot who moved to Glasgow and started out selling his mother's lace. Ladbroke shares closed 4.25p lower at

TSB **Base Rate**

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CHANCERY DIVISION -**COMPANIES COURT** No 7226 of 1998

MERCURY WORLD MINING TRUST plc

in the Matter of

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

MOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 27th January 1999 confirming the reduction of the share premium account and share capital of the above-named Company by £233,230,284.20 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital as altered the several particulars required by the above Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 29th January 1999.

Dated this 5th day of February 1999 Simmons & Simmons 21 Wilson Street London EC2M 2TX

Tel: 0171-628 2020 Ref: 5FS/U56888/RES/S\/W



IN BRIEF

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been expected to raise.

inally indicated by PowerGen. nuclear generator, British Enbid, as has John Devaney, the

The fifth bidder is thought to be the US utility Entergy, which recently sold London Electricity to Electricité de France for £1.9bn. Centrica, the trading arm of the former British Gas. has not made a bid.

The sale of the two stations. which have a combined output of 4,000 megawatts, is due to be completed in April. The sale was forced on PowerGen by the electricity regulator in return for approval to buy East Midlands Electricity.

Friday 5 February 1999

THE INDEPENDENT

BUSINESS/19

ECB looks increasingly out of step

TWO CENTRAL banks have decided to leave interest rates unchanged in the past two days - the US Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank. There is, however, a world of difference in their respective inactivity.

The Fed has done a truly remarkable job of testing the limits of low inflation growth. Rates have been left unchanged despite the 5 per cent-plus growth rate the economy has displayed in recent months. Although some economists are starting to mutter that Alan Greenspan might have to think about raising interest rates quite soon to slow the pace of growth and, more important, halt the stock market bubble, all agree that the US has displayed a spectacular and long-lasting combination of high growth, low unemployment and low inflation.

Euro interest rates are lower, at 3 per cent, but then the European economy is a sad specimen by comparison. Inflation is zero but un-



OUTLOOK

ed recovery in growth is threatening to go into reverse. All the recent news from the mainland has pointed to the need, or at least the scope, for looser monetary policy. However, the ever less impressive Wim Duisenberg said again yesterday that he sees no need yet to cut loan costs.

The Bank of England's unexpected activism puts it firmly in the Fed school of monetary policy. Its statement made clear that it sees employment is stuck above 11 per \cdot the inflation target of 25 per cent cent on average and the long-await- as symmetric - being too far below

ronment and the absence of inflationary pressures, there was no reason not to cut rates by more than expected. Growth gets a boost with, according to most forecasts, little inflationary danger

It might yet turn out that both the Fed and the Bank of England have cut too far. In the case of the US, there is growing gloom about the sustainability of the expansion, and its reliance on a buoyant stock market. Some Wall Street bears criticise the Fed's loose policy for puffing up the stock market hubble. The pessimistic scenario is that if inflationary bottlenecks do emerge, the Fed will have to raise rates, the market will crash and there will be a much steeper slowdown than there would have been under a

more cautious interest rate policy. In the UK, meanwhile, there is wide disagreement not just about the outlook for the economy but also about how it is performing right now. years, rapid falls in interest rates

acteristic has changed under the new policy arrangements, but there is always the danger it has not.

In both cases, it is possible to argue that the monetary authorities have taken risks with inflation, albeit on a lesser scale than in the past. But to make the argument is to highlight the contrast between the Anglo-Saxon and Continental approaches. Turn it around and it is possible to argue that the ECB is taking an equally reckless risk with jobs and growth. Central bankers are bound to make mistakes. The question is which mistake it ought to be at a time when the world is in financial crisis and prices are stable or falling. Just to pose the question is to know the answer.

BMW's dog

schadenfreude as Bernd Pischet-Almost invariably in the past 30 srieder, the boss of BMW, stares into the abyss. When he bought Rover

is as bad as being too far above. have had to be equally rapidly rein 1994 for a price which seemed Given the uncertain external envi-versed. The hope is that this charfancy even then, there was an arfancy even then, there was an arrogance in his assumption that German efficiency could do for Rover what billions of pounds of taxpayers' money and a spell under British Aerospace's ownership had

singularly failed to achieve. Five years and £3bn of investment later, far from turning Rover around, the old dog looks like being the nemesis of its master. BMW has suffered the humiliation of seeing its profits fall for the first time in years, not because its own brand is faltering, but because of the black hole over here into which it has been pouring funds.

Whilst it is hardy yet accurate to say that the vultures are circling. BMW would be snapped up by any number of bigger and hungrier predators if only the Quandt family could be persuaded to sell. The sale of Volvo to Ford makes the world an even lonelier place for the likes of BMW, which is now regarded as a minnow in motoring terms, even though it churns out more than a million cars a year.

chetsrieder, spoke dreamily of the pared by the Rover dinner ladies golden days of British motoring and evoked images of everyone driving around once again in Wolseleys and Rileys, And indeed the new Rover 75, a retro version of the stylish saloons of the late

But it is more likely to be Mr Pischetsrieder's swansong than Rover's salvation. The real gap in the marque's line up is a model that can compete credibly in the medium segment of the market where Rover is woefully represented by

1950s, is, by all accounts going

down a storm with the motoring

press test driving the car out in

the 200-400 series. Mr Pischetsrieder's rumoured successor, Wolfgang Reitzle, has no such sentimental attachments to weigh him down, Indeed anyone who spotted his cameo performance in the TV series "When BMW met Rover", will recall a cold-eyed fellow whose schedule definitely had no room for the film-wrapped German sausage

When he took charge, Mr Pis- and sauerkraut so lovingly preat Canley.

> The unions fear Mr Reitzle is the type who could close Longbridge down, tell Tony Blair to keep his £300m in aid and switch production to Hungary without so much as a blink. That would mean 15,000 job losses, minimum, and the first real test of Mr Blair's New Labour free market rhetoric.

RAC cockup

IT WAS perhaps to be expected that an investigation characterised by cockups should end with one final humdinger of a mistake.

Yes, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission managed to misspell the name of the American company it was investigation on the front of yesterday's report concerning the RAC takeover. The name Cendant was spelt Sedant. Last night an emharrassed DTI was hurriedly recalling copies and

PowerGen's £1.5bn sale exceeds best hopes

to £1.5bn from the sale of two of its coal-fired power stations - far more than the auction had

Five bidders have submitted offers for the stations – Ferrybridge and Fiddler's Ferry – all of which are well in excess of the reserve price of £900m orig-

Leading the bidders are the ergy, and the recently merged Scottish and Southern Energy. Mission Energy of the US, which bought the National - completed the corporate staff Grid's pumped storage power stations, has also submitted a former chairman of Eastern.

Once East Midlands is fully bedded in PowerGen, led by chairman Ed Wallis, is expected to make the purchase of another regional electricity

POWERGEN is set to raise up By MICHAEL HARRISON

company its priority. It is also looking at further overseas expansion and has targeted India, Thailand and China, where it could buy generating plant that is already running.

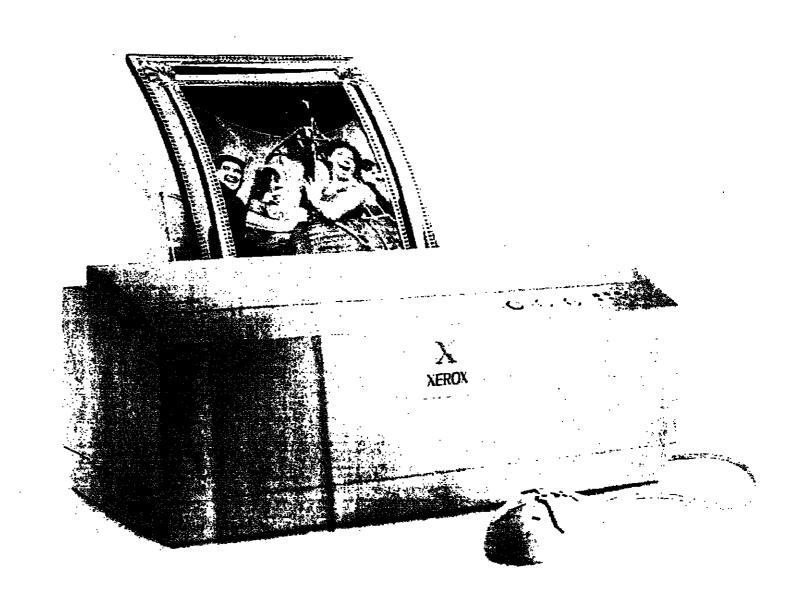
PowerGen also remains interested in a US acquisition despite the failure to pull off the £10bn merger of equals with Houston Industries. The deal was called off last summer just four days before it was due to be signed. PowerGen had even video explaining the rational

for the merger.
Meanwhile the new energy regulator, Callum McCarthy, said Scottish Power may have to hive off its Scottish supply and transmission business into a completely separate company to gain approval for its acquisition of the US electrici-

ty company PacifiCorp. Southern Electric and Scot tish Hydro-Electric agreed to hive off their generating activities within three years as a con-dition of being allowed to merge. In a consultative document,

Mr McCarthy said Scottish Power's US deal raised concerns about its ability to fund its UK operations. He said safeguards might have to be put in place to prevent resources

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Adecco to form IT staffing giant with £167m buy

ADECCO, the Swiss staffing giant, plans to become a world leader in the computer staffing inclustry following its acquisition yesterday of Delphi, the troubled IT recruitment firm,

The offer, which includes a final dividend of 15p, values Delphi at 565p a share in cash, more than double its low point at the end of last year but still well below the shares' all-time high of 905p in 1997. By the close yesterday, Adecco said it owned or had irrevocable undertakings for 29.9 per cent of Delphi shares, which ended up 57.5p at

The deal is a big step forward in Adecco's ambition to become the world leader in the fastgrowing IT recruitment industry. "The industry is consolidating and we have been a najor consolidator," said John Adecco's chief

Adecco is one of the largest staffing companies in the world, with revenues of £6.6bm and operating profits of £279m last year. Its UK operations include Jonathan Wren, the banking and insurance recruitment

Despite its recent woes when mis-management destroyed its credibility with inBY PETER THAL LARSEN

vestors - Delphi is still the largest IT recruitment agency in the UK, with sales of £277m in the year to December 1997.

IT recruitment companies have taken a beating in the City recently as investors have become concerned about a slowdown in demand for contractors as the preparations for the millennium are completed.

However, John Bowmer, Adecco's chief executive, rejected suggestions that the company's move into IT recruitment was poorly timed. "We are in the midst of a technological revolution similar to the industrial revolution," he said. "The technology is here to stay"

Mr Bowmer said consolidation was being prompted by large companies which were attempting to reduce their suppliers. "Big firms want to have a similar service around the world. We can offer them a onestop-shop," he said.

Tony Reeves, Delphi's chief executive, will be in charge of Adecco's IT staffing operations in Europe and will lead its strategy in IT recruitment. He stressed that none of Delphi's staff would lose their jobs as a

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Cammell

steam up

to £4.7m

BY CLIFFORD GERMAN

CAMMELL LAIRD, the one-time

shipbuilder for Cunard that

has survived as a ship repair

and conversion specialist.

made more profit in the six

months to the end of October

than in the whole of the preva-

Turnover in the first half

quadrupled to £41.8m and prof-

its more than trobled to £4.7m.

in spite of a £500,000 charge for

training costs included in the

Cammell Laird Merseyside

enjoyed a record six months on

the back of strong demand

from the off-shore oil and ferry

markets. The strong perfor

nunce continued into the third

quarter, the forward worklead

is close to £40m and the yards

are operating at close to full

capacity Much of the workload is

related to the off-shore oil sector.

but it is concentrated mainly on

deep-water exploration work

which is less susceptible to the

drop in oil prices than shallow-

water work or production from

ous year.

profits

Free at 5 1 change in

US dampens Footsie's rate cut excitement

THERE WAS a time when a half-a-point base rate cut would have sent Footsie soaring into the stratosphere - not these days.

True, the index was at one time up 101 points. Yet by the close it looked decidedly uncertain, nursing a 0.4 fall at

5.939.9. The truism that it is better to travel than arrive was one reason for the grudging response by blue chips. Another was that at least part of the interest rate decrease had already been discounted.

But it was New York, once again exerting its dominant influence, which was the major killjoy. Britain may be part of the European Union and may be reluctantly forced to embrace the euro but it is still America which rules stock

market sentiment. during London hours, wobbled on worries about today's US employment figures as well as suggestions of a credit tightening, and poor old Footsie took fright,

The rest of the market, al-

A COMPANY called EMU Capital, related to investor Roddie Thompson, has turned one of the smaller fund management groups into a nice little earner.

It acquired 25.47 per cent of Farlake at 250p a share last year. The shares have now been sold on – at 390p – producing a profit of £835,000. The buyer is a German fund manager, Value Management and Research. Farlake shares. hoping for a bid, rose 10p

though finishing below best lution with the mid cap and small cap indices continuing their New Year run.

The search for value on the under card, aided and abetted by yet more takeover activity. lifted the mid cap 19.4 to 5,232.6 and the small cap 18.9 to 2,201.4.

Only one mid cap constituent, casino and hotel group Stakis, actually collected a bid, a signalled 140p a share offer from an unidentified suitor, possibly Ladbroke although Whitbread is, in some quarters, regarded as a possible outsider. The

shares rose 26p to 137p. There was no shortage of rumoured candidates for bid attention. BICC, the cable and construction group, made further headway, up 4.5p to 82.5p in busy trading. Engineer FKI hardened 13p to 169p and chemical groups British Vita, 16.5p to 228.5p. and Croda International, 11p to 256.5p, were others swept up in speculative activity.

Airtours, where a bid from its big US shareholder Carnival Corporation is always a possibility, rose 35.5p to 421.5p. and First Choice 11.5p to 141.5p. Packaging group David S Smith, up 3.5p to 119p, was another rumoured

to be on a hit list. Two small cap companies

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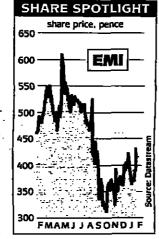
MARKET REPORT

were pulled into the bid frame. Swan Hill, a construction group, jumped 23p to 68.5p after reporting approaches and Chemring, a defence group that has had a difficult time, surged 43p to 149p as a bidder materialised

Delphi, a computer group, The Dow Jones Average, firmed a further 57.5p to 550p as Adecco, a Swiss group, duly bid 550p.

Photobition, the display materials group, was 28p better at 260p after refusing to increase a bid. Its offer for printer Wace, trumped by Schawk, a US group, lapsed; as a consolation prize it took over for £11m Service Visual, a graphic display company.

EMI, the showbiz group, was top of the Footsie pops, spinning 32p higher to 432p as Warburg Dillon Read upgraded to buy Goldman Sachs lifted Carlton Communications 25.5p to 656.5p although



the US investment house had less luck with BT After it increased its target price to 1,100p, the telecom giant's shares soared 40p; but at the close they were down 3.5p at

Most telecoms were hit by New York's weakness although Cable & Wireless rose 33p to 865.5p as its One 2 One service picked up its two millionth customer, doubling in little more than a year.

The outbreak of a bread price war sliced Tesco 4.25p to 187.5p but made little impact on other supermarkets with Asda, drawing support from HSBC, up 3.5p to 159.75p, and J Sainsbury, trading statement today, 0.5p firmer at 429p. Safeway, with its comments on trading on Monday,

gained 10.75p to 291p. BTR Siebe made its debut at 253.5p, up 3.5p, although HSBC lowered its profit forecast to £1.05bn from £1.1bn and to £1.22bn from £1.28bn. Imperial Chemical In-

dustries firmed 9p to 527p on its widely predicted results.

GRE, the insurer, fell 6.75p to 357.5p with bidder Sun Life & Provincial off 28.5p to 501p. There is speculation that Sun's weakness could yet prompt a counter bid. When the bid was made it valued GRE at around 390p; after Sun's retreat the value is some 370p.

SmithKline Beecham rose 31p to 835.5p on reports the drugs group was on the verge of selling its pharmaceutical services division to a drugs retailer.

Oils were in better shape as the crude price edged ahead and some upbeat analytical comments appeared in the US. In busy trading BP Amoco flared 26p to 891p, and Shell, for long in the doldrums, put on 12.5p to 323p.

Scottish Media improved 42.5p to 865p. It said it was considering options over its 20 per cent shareholding in GMTV. There are reports that Scottish Media and GMTV's other minor shareholder, Guardian Media, are planning to sell their holdings to the two major shareholders, Carlton Communications and

EASYSCREEN, a little known company providing dealing systems for futures and options markets, is the current

Its shares arrived on the fringe, lightly regulated market at 167p four weeks ago. They have been in demand since. Although directors say

this week they sold 60,000 shares at 330p and 370p to meet market demand, the price continues to move higher: vesterday it rose a further 45p to its best yet, 435p.

Granada

ed 89p to 641.5p after the company concluded a fiveyear deal to supply traffic information to the AA. It supplies a variety of products, from small screens to pagers, which can be fitted in cars. The deal should provide a substantial yearly fee, around £3m in the first year, as well as revenue from the AA's use of the data.

Another vehicle group, Torotrak, was back on the uproad, gaining 12.5p to 95p. The muiti gearbox maker has been in reverse for most of the time since it was demerged from BTG last summer. It started quoted life at 300p and last month was down to 65p. But suggestions of major deals with car makers are going the rounds and some expect a statement of a new link up next week.

Stockbroker Durlacher, specialising in high-tech shares, more than tripled interim profits but its shares shaded 12.5p to 800p.

Other stockbrokers, however, took heart. NRP, owning Teather & Greenwood, spurted 37.5p to a 135p peak. BWD rose 3.5p to 291.5p and Walker Crips Weddie Beck 2p to

SĒAQ VOLUME: 1.2bn SEAQ TRADES: 75,262 GILTS INDEX: 115.78 -0.51 INVESTMENT

ICI aims to cut debt mountain by £700m

ICI YESTERDAY set itself the By Michael Harrison target of reducing its debt mountain by £700m this year and achieving double-digit earnings in its speciality chemicals, paints and materials businesses in a bid to win back the confidence of the City.

The company whose share price has plunged by almost 60 per cent in the past year, said it was introducing tougher bonus targets for senior executives and preparing radical

cutbacks in support operations. Brendan O'Neill, ICI's new chief executive, said strengthening the balance sheet was the top priority this year after a series of setbacks in 1998 when US regulators blocked asset disposals worth £1bn.

ICI's aim is to reduce debt from £4.2bn to £3.5bn. Mr O'Neili said ICI still intended to meet its target of raising £5bn from disposals to help pay for the £4.9bn acquisition of Unilever's speciality chemicals business in 1997.

But he gave no indication as to when ICI's remaining industrial chemicals businesses in Runcorn and Wilton would be sold, or how quickly it could resurrect the \$1bn disposal of its Tioxide pigments business.

The targets for individual businesses are to raise margins to 15 per cent in speciality into line with higher-rated rivals chemicals, 10 per cent or more such as Ciba and Clariant.

THE TRADING statement from

Bass yesterday was essentially

a mixed assortment with the

hotels and leisure divisions

doing better than some City

expectations but brewing still

The hotels division, which

has been boosted by last year's

acquisition of Inter-Continental

Hotels, has been riding the back

of the strong US consumer

Revenue per available room

Inter-Continental is also

doing well with figures up by 9

per cent on the same basis.

However, some analysts were

proving a problem.

economy.

in materials and 9 per cent in paints and decorative coatings. The final aim is to cut borrowing to 30 to 40 per cent of market capitalisation, now £3.8bn - less than it paid for the Unilever businesses. As margins improve, interest pay-

ments would be covered four to

five times by earnings, Mr O'Neill projected. He was speaking as ICI reported a 17 per cent fall in pre-tax, pre-exceptional profits last year to £321m and confirmed it would maintain the dividend at 32p. At that level the dividend is not covered by earnings. The net interest charge was up by £81m to £332m, while

the strong pound and Asian downturn together knocked £100m from profits. ICI shares rose 2 per cent to 528p. Analysts are pencilling in full-year profits for 1999 of around £300m. Alan Spall, IC1 finance

director, said that for now dividend policy remained "steady as she goes". Some analysts believe ICI will seek to maintain the dividend until it has sold its last bulk chemicals businesses - the petrochemical division on Teesside and the chlorine division at Runcorn. After that it could cut the payout to bring it

Associate City Editor

upgrading systems.

in the Holiday Inn business was up by 1 per cent and drinks edg-

disappointed that they were not business combined with an

forecasts as most of the addi-

tional hotel profits are being re-

invested, particularly in

mixed, although the longer-term

picture is still attractive. The

which includes Harvester All

Bar One and O'Neill's, is per-

forming in line, with food sales

up by 6.7 per cent in the first 16 ing up by 1 per cent. However, Sir Ian Prosser: Looking

The conundrum for Bass,

chaired by Sir Ian Prosser, is that

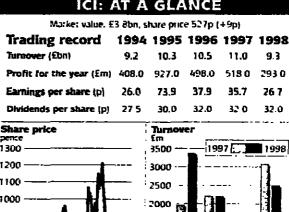
it has an international hotels

down by 3.2 per cent.

pubs and restaurants business.

Elsewhere the picture was

ICI: AT A GLANCE



Mr O'Neill dismissed the idea that ICI could not survive as an independent company and said it had received no takeover approaches from rival chemical groups.

Both main speciality chemicals businesses turned in higher profits, with National Starch recording its 29th successive year of growth and the Quest food flavourings and fragrances 13 per cent. The industrial chemicals division cut losses from £98m to £41m on turnover down by 26 per cent to £2,46bn. Mr O'Neill said the move into

speciality chemicals meant that

pared with £750m in the old ICL ICI was planning to make bolt-on acquisitions, he said, but these would be small and care-

Bass has tried to expand

overseas by buying the Staro-

pramen brewer in the Czech Re-

public. But the acquisition has

On the plus side Bass's strong portfolio of brands, both

in drinks and in pubs and restau-

rants, will stand it in good stead

if consumer spending is kick-

started by lower interest rates.

not gone well.

marginal fields. ICI's capital spending would fall Cammell has yet to show it to about £375m a year comcan break into the really bigticket work, but labour costs are 40 per cent lower than those of

its continental competitors. Juan Kelly, the chairman. said world trade was continuing to expand regardless of Brewing still a problem for Bass

the economic climate, which had affected the rate of growth but had not halted it. Cammell Laird Gibraltar's in current trading and off-trade recent quality accreditation sales down over 13 per cent as will allow it to expand its repair activities and refit cruise ships the group is not prepared to sacrifice margins to buy sales.

The acquisition of Wear Dock yard and Tyne Dock Engineering came too late to have much effect on the figures, but should flow through to results by early summer. Brokers vesterday ungraded forecasts for the current year to £9.7m and earnings of 32.1p

a share, although forecasts for the year after remain unchanged at £15.4m and 42.7p Assuming full-year profits of a share in view of the difficulty oi iorecasting demand The shares fell 10p to 700p

3p to 853.5p - trade on a forward multiple of 14. John Beaumont. yesterday, but they have almost drinks analyst at Merrill Lynch trebled over the past 12 rates the stock an "accumumonths. At 17 times forecast late" indicating an expected rise earnings, however, they look able to upgrade full-year profit essentially UK brewing and pub on-trade sales down 2.2 per cent of around 10 per cent in the year expensive.

Bennett set to hunt IT heads

ONE OF the four senior executives who left ING Barings last

autumn has popped up at the information technology recruitment firm JM. Peter Bennett left the investment bank after three years as global chief operating officer. He had been brought in from UBS to rebuild Barings' back-office operations after the Nick Leeson disaster.

Then last year ING Barings suffered big losses in emerging market- and brought in David Robins, a former colleague of Mr Bennett at UBS, to be a "new broom" chief executive.

Mr Bennett says: "I had already made my mind up to leave. I was disenchanted with investment banking – I'd been doing it for far too long. Mr Robins needed someone to make a new start with."

Mr Bennett, who was once a systems analyst with IBM back in the 1960s, is now head of JM's

PEOPLE AND

BUSINESS

By John WILLCOCK



Hedging bets

PEOPLE HAVE got it all wrong about hedge funds. They seem to think such funds are there to smash up currencies. Witness the gasps of horror this week when Arminio Fraga, the managing director of Soros Fund Management, was named as president of the Brazil Central

This is a gross misconception. Central banks and hedge funds have very close relationships the world over, as is shown by another appointment

this week. Klaus Regeling, a senior official with the German Finance Ministry, has joined Moore Capital, one of the

world's top five hedge funds.

Oskar Lafontaine's ministry,

and is now expected to do some

"high level schmoozing" for the

operation that is operating in

mature markets. The UK beer

market remains difficult and

this showed in Bass' figures, with

New York-based hedge fund, according to a City source. **Persaud stays**

AVINASH PERSAUD, one of the highest rated currency analysts in the City, has changed his mind over going to Boston to join Put-nam Investments. A spokesman for the former JP Morgan high fiver says that "a personal glitch came up late in the day and he's not going after all".

It's a pity, as Mr Persaud has already left JP Morgan, where he was head of currency research, as I wrote a fortnight

ago. Putnam, one of the world's lock's lips are sealed, she says, oldest and biggest fund managers, says it is seeking to fill Mr Persaud's job "as a matter of

SARAH MODLOCK of the Mr Regeling had been work-Financial Services Authority ing on European policy for (FSA) press office was some what nonplussed this week when someone phoned up asking for Howard Davies's views on the Glenn Hoddle contro-

> Ms Modlock says she knew the FSA head was a keen fan of Manchester City, but was surprised that he was rated as such a football expert.

Then something occurred to her. "Don't you mean David Davies, the chairman of the Football Association (FA)?" she asked. "Oh. I don't know. I'll have to call back," the caller muttered.

Minutes later the caller came back and said that, yes, they had meant David Davies of the FA. So who was the confused questioner? Ms Mod-

in order "to protect the daft". She adds that the FSA is now girding itself for calls to the Football Supporters Association (FSA) over the price of tickets and the Food Standards Agency Acronym panic (FSA) "over dodgy pork pies".

ICI talent show

ANALYSTS ARRIVING for ICI's annual results briefing yesterday were surprised to see the outgoing chairman, Sir Ronnie Hampel, take the podium instead of Charles Miller Smith, who had been named

Sir Ronnie assured the assembled City scribblers that they were witnessing "neither a resurrection, nor a reincarnation". Mr Miller Smith was Rat on his back in bed with flu. All of which meant that ICI's new chief executive. Brendan O'Neill, had to deliver the main presentation. Is there no end to this man's talents?

successor only the day before.

E-mail: j.willcock@indepen-

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THE INDIPENDENT

SPORT

Five Nations' Championship: Experienced coach has France ready for double campaign, which starts in Dublin tomorrow

Confidence the key for Villepreux



RICHARD WILLIAMS

THE HOOKED nose, the stubble, the general air of a man for whom there s very little in life that could not be improved by the accompaniment of a glass of house red: the older he gets, the more Pierre Villepreux comes to resemble the late Serge Gainsbourg. And this is probably the last person over the age of puberty anywhere in the world who can still get away with putting his baseball cap on backwards.

At 54, the guru of French rugby is approaching the climactic test of his long and convoluted career. On Saturday at Lansdowne Road the team of which he is an assistant coach begins its two-stage journey through the Five Nations' Championship, which holds out promise of a third consecutive Grand Slam, and the World Cup, in which France may be considered the most likely of the European nations to go all the way.

This week, on the day before their departure for Dublin, Villepreux was to be found prowling the lumpy turf of the Stade du Vieux Moulin in Rambouillet, taking his players brough their practice routines. son to be better known, thanks to its vast presidential castle, as the location of the Kosovo peace talks, Rambouillet is a quiet town 50 kilometres south of Paris and a few minutes away from the squad's training centre. Schoolchildren and local enthusiasts crowded the touchline as the chosen XV faced their reserves, with a group of army internationals making up the

On a cold, dry afternoon, the players ran through a sequence of 15-man handling moves. Close support was the message, along with swift transfer and unpredictable angles of running. Philippe Carbonneau and Thomas Castaignède, the half-backs, moved from breakdown to breakdown, flicking the ball out to the criss-crossing runners. From a distance, it looked like a demonstration of classic French improvisation.

"No." Villepreux said, in a tone of miable reproof. "Improvise is not the right word, I think Improvisation is something that happens when you have no sense of the situation that you're in. We want to give the players that sense, the ability to find a weakness in the defence of the other team. Improvisation, for me it's too much dangerous. If you improvise, one player will see one thing and another will see something else. It doesn't work."

Well, whatever it is, it looks as spontaneous and as pretty as it did in the days, between 1967 and 1972, when Villepreux was winning his 34 caps at full-back, even though the sense of tactical organisation is quite different. "It was much easier then," he protested. But the modern way seems every bit as faithful to the cherished legend of

'Yes, yes, yes," he responded. "Of



Pierre Villepreux keeps his eye on a French training session at Wanderers in Dublin yesterday to ensure Gallic flair will not override organisation on the pitch tomorrow

to keep it and we have to give the players more confidence in this capacity to create quickly problems for their adversaries."

That emphasis on confidence invoked the occasional lack of mental strength that is another part of the French tradition, and which showed up before Christmas in a narrow defeat at the hands of Australia. Some felt this result placed the Five Nations achievements into a truer perspective, particularly with the World Cup approaching, and France hoping to improve on their semi-final place in 1995.

It had been an interesting game, Villepreux said. "First of all, because we learnt that we are not very far away from the level of the Southern Hemisphere. Secondly, because if we had been able to play in the second half with the same discipline as in the first half, we would have won. Discipline is vital at the highest level. It's more important than ever to respect the rules. Teams that don't understand that are penalising themselves. Against Australia, for a long time the French were not indisciplined. Then it changed. It's necessary to get serious on this

"The problem for the French

game, and it's our game.' Not always to say, 'Oh, we have to adapt our game to the other side.' Play on your strengths first of all, and after that you adapt your game defensively to the other team. But for me this de-

feat was not really bad." To most outsiders. Villepreux's involvement with the national squad has been long overdue. After doing brilliant work with Stade Toulousain, he was frozen out by the grands fromages of the French rugby federation during the long dictatorship

Fouroux and Pierre Berbizier strug-

gled to bring order to instinctive bril-

liance, Villepreux operated as a

hired gun, spreading his wisdom

around the rugby-playing world -

even, briefly, to Jack Rowell's Eng-

Now he is part of a settled, har-

monious group, working alongside

two men whose international play-

ing careers overlapped with his

younger. But it is Villepreux whose vision of rugby is embodied in the dynamic handling game with which the French have won their most recent honours.

Before the training session, Maso had announced the line-up for Lansdowne Road in an address which included several mentions of the team's need to approach the match with "humility". Was that just a handy word, or could Villepreux reconcile it with his own insistence

"Yes," he said, "because when you

After two consecutive Grand

are the first and you start a new com-

petition, in your head it's necessary

Slams, the French coaches could be

excused for telling themselves, OK,

things are going well, let's just carry

on. But this is a different sort of sea-

son, and requires a mental adjust-

to be second, not first."

of Albert Ferrasse. While Jacques on giving the players self-confi-

we can win another Grand Slam, it to lose at a good moment. And after will be a very interesting base from which to prepare for the World Cup. And if we don't win the Five Nations, I hope that we can play rugby which prepares us as well as possible for the big event."

Could the squad approach both competitions with the same strategy and style? "Yes, yes, yes, I'm sure of that, and I'm also sure that the World Cup will be open. The winning team will really give a big show for

And which countries does he

think capable of winning the big one?

"I think that the French team have

a little, little, little chance, which we'll

try to take. Certainly Australia and

who were gently dismissed in Villepreux's assessment of France's opponents in the Five Nations. They're having to change their mentality and consider rugby differently. I think the Welsh team have improved a lot in their attacking rugby. It's the aim of their coach, it seems to me, to give his team the 'The aim for this season is naturally the World Cup. If we can win another Grand Slam, it will be a very interesting base from which to build for the World Cup'

mental approach of the Southern Hemisphere." And England? "It's difficult to give an impression of what they want, exactly. They have some rugby. So we have to prepare for that good players, so it's basically a good in the Five Nations. But I am sure that this year's Five Nations will be The French had spent the mornvery interesting because all the naing at Chateau Ricard, their traintions are trying to improve their rugby with the aim of the World

that the European teams... the

Welsh, France, England, and why not

the Irish, because they have the

quarter-final in Dublin, so all is pos-

Except, evidently, for the Scots,

sible. All is possible."

ing centre, where the backs had been shut away with Villepreux in a brainstorming session. The big news was that Emile Ntamack had been pronounced fit to resume his Five Nations career by moving from the wing to full-back, a switch prefigured by Ntamack's appearance in the No 15 jersey for an hour of the match between a French selection and Italy in Genoa the previous Satur-

chief coach, who is five years said. "So that gives us two aims. If a good moment, and it's important day. But the injury-prone Toulouse player, who missed an entire season through a groin injury, had suffered

a knock against the Italians and spent the hour before lunch on the treatment table.

"He played a very nice game against Italy:" Villepreux said, a few feet away from where Ntamack lay with electrodes attached to his left knee. "It's important for him to return to the team and we will try to use his potential. I think he's become stronger, because he's worked a lot physically, and he's got a lot of confidence. If he's able to play at his best level, certainly he'll be a big weapon Bearing tomorrow's rendezvous

in mind, he acknowledged the relevance of Ulster's European Cup victory, achieved by the Irish club with defeats of three top French sides in a row. "Evidently it's a problem for French rugby, and so we want to see on Saturday if it's really like that or not. The Irish have made a lot of progress. It hasn't made us change our preparation, but we have seen a lot of Irish rugby and we have some ideas to try to beat them. The key will be the capacity of the French team to defend well against the Irish forwards. If we have this capacity. I am sure we have the

own: Jo Maso, his exact contemment throughout the squad. South Africa, maybe not in that team is to say, 'OK, we are strong be-"The aim of this season is natuorder will be the best. But also New porary, who is the squad's managcourse, the flair is one of the cause we want to play one type of er, and Jean-Claude Skréla, the rally the World Cup," Villepreux Zealand. New Zealand have lost at engths of French rugby. We have Murray keeps moving onwards

land squad.

IT WOULD be fair to say that the worst three hours of Scott Murray's rugby career were not his first two appearances for his country, as traumatic as were the thrashings handed out by first Australia, then South Africa, in late autumn and

early winter 1997. The Murrayfield nightmares were seven long months away when the young Bedford lock suffered a harrowing 180 minutes in hospital, wondering if he would ever see out of his left eye again. He was punched during Bedford's match against castle. "I couldn't see out of my left eye for about three hours. It was very frightening," he said.

To take his mind off the unthinkable he borrowed a mobile telephone and kept ringing the Goldington Road ground for updates on the state of affairs between the then Second Division rivals. It all ended happily. Bedford won and Murray recov-

ered his vision. Since then it has been onward and upward for the former Scotland Schools basketball international, who was 23 last month. Under the

A former basketball player will be coming down to earth tomorrow when Wales visit Murrayfield. By David Llewellyn

influence of Bedford's player-coach, Rudi Straeuli, he has matured into a superb second-row forward. His previous incarnation means he has a great degree of mobility around the pitch. If they were to ban lifting at the line-out Murray's natural athleticism would see him soaring from a standing jump to pluck the ball away from the opposition.

Yet it was almost by chance that Murray is where he is. He was selected for Scotland Under-18s on the same weekend that he was called up for a basketball international "The basketball people wanted me to turn out for them on the Friday evening, play rugby on the Saturday then more basketball on the Sunday," he remembers. "The rugby authorities said there was no way I could do that. The reason I chose to play rugby that weekend was because it was harder to get in to the rugby team. There was more

stems from his father's interest run of hard games." and participation in the game. Also. because his father was in the arm y Murray was brought up for much of his formative years in Germany, many sporting professionals these

hardly a hotbed of rugby. Despite that, or perhaps because of it, he has made it to the top although he does admit to being surprised to win his first cap for Scotland while Bedford were still in the Second Division.

But, on reflection, perhaps it was understandable, because, as Murray says: "When I joined Bedford from Edinburgh Academicals the year before, I realised straightaway that I was making a step up in standard, even though Bedford were in the Second Division.

"I found myself playing with a lot of better players and as a youngster you can take a lot from those around you. Also at Accies I was not a steady first-team player. It wasn't until I Accies. I didn't go to the gym for

The basketball part of his life joined Bedford that I got a regular

The question has to be asked: why Bedford in the first place? The answer, given the coyness of so days, is astonishingly frank. "It was a lot to do with money," says Murray. "They offered me twice as much as everyone else. There wasn't much to think about."

However much he is being paid, and ultimately that is an irrelevance, Murray is paying back Bedford in spades. He has been a key figure in their rise to Allied Premiership One and he has survived some unpleasant international results to be on the brink of winning his eighth cap for Scotland.

Things have had to change for him, though, in order for him to succeed as he has done, not least his approach to the game. Murray confesses: "I was pretty lazy at

example." He implies he did just enough and no more, perhaps the motivation was not there.

Now, though, there is motivation aplenty. With his move south came a change in attitude, which has further resulted in a change of shape. "I am a lot bigger than when I played for Accies," he explains. "I am a stone and a half heavier - all muscle except for my beer gut - than I was. And my attitude has changed. I have to train, and I do."

The dividends are there for all to see. But Murray is never going to turn into the type of player who lives and breathes the game. He wants to savour life outside the professional's weekday routine of improving fitness and kicking balls and then spending the rest of the time kicking his heels, driven senseless with boredom.

"There's a group of us who make a point of doing something else. Most Fridays for example we will go clay pigeon shooting, and last week we went deep-sea fishing. Then on a Monday we attend a basic computer course, one which can lead to further. more advanced courses. There is the



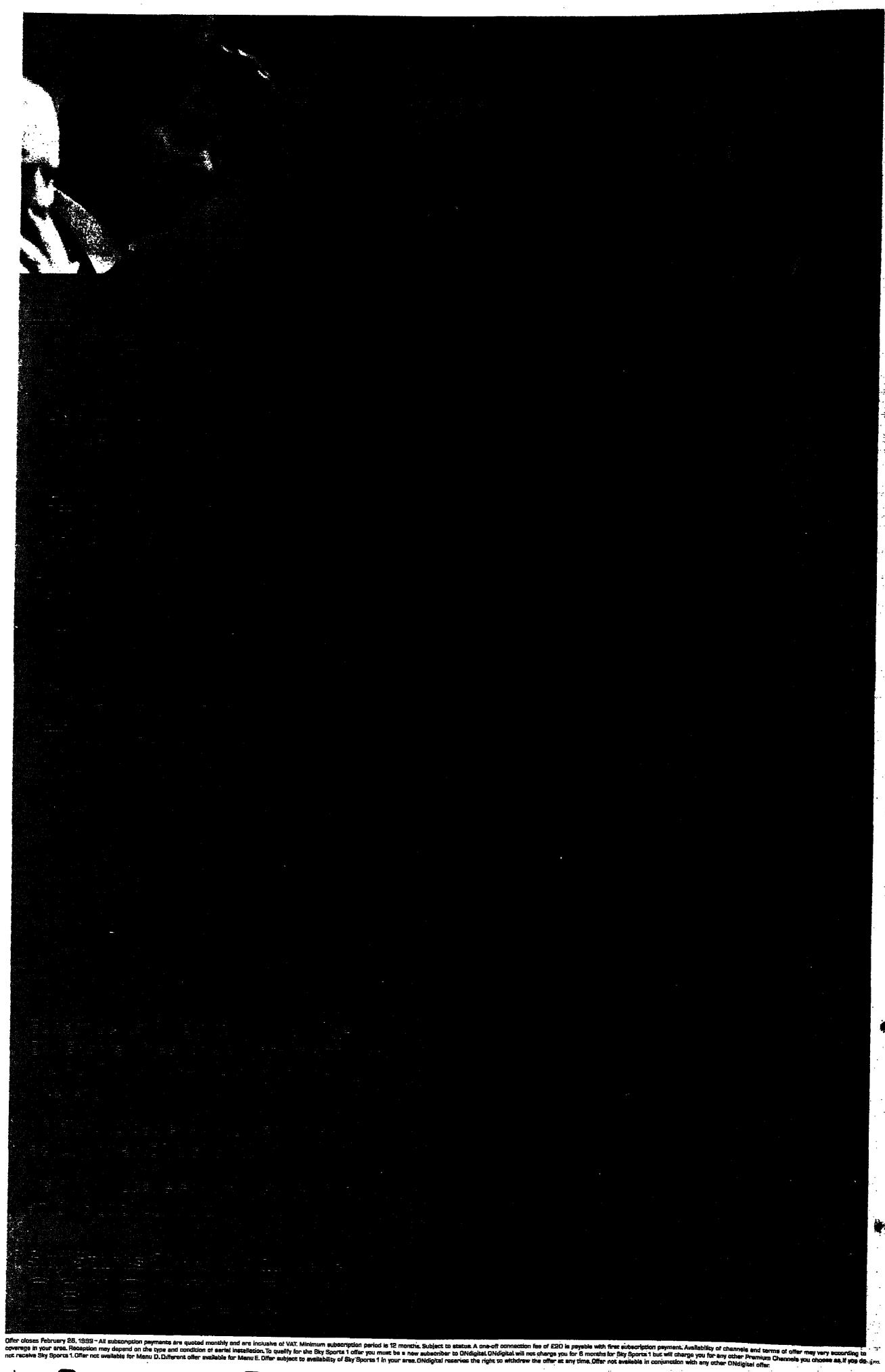
Scott Murray: Change in attitude and change in shape

homework which is generated from that and we also play golf."

Unusually for a Scot, especially one born in Musselburgh, Murray had not struck a golf ball with serious intent until he joined Bedford, but, as with the guitar, which he has taken up recently and with some success, he would appear to be a fast learner "I am playing off a handicap

of 16." he says. But for all his facility to learn

there is still a big gap in his rugby career. Although he played in the World Cup qualifiers last autumn when Scotland thrashed Spain and Portugal, no caps were awarded and Murray says: "I haven't won a match vet in which I have been capped." There is no doubt that he intends to end that unenviable record as soon as possible. Wales at Murrayfield tomorrow is his first opportunity. He



Osier retu



Dale does his best to match heroes

Glenn McGrath's one-day partner is a late developer with the World Cup in his sights. By Stephen Brenkley in Sydney

THAT MAN at the other end from Glenn McGrath is Adam Dale. It is as well to remember this now, because when the World Cup is played in May he is likely to have a profound influence on Australia's destiny. He has spent the past month forging a formidably mean one-day new-ball partnership with the world's leading speed merchant.

They complement each other wonderfully. McGrath is the type of fast bowler who comes battering on the front door, forcing his credentials under your nose so you cannot help but stand up and take notice. Dale is the sidekick who sneaks in the side entrance, gives you the once over and gradually makes you feel

distinctly uneasy. From the opening match of the Cariton & United Series in Brisbane he has been relentlessly accurate. keeping the ball up to the bat, swinging it a little, hitting the seam, inviting the error Only last Sunday, when Sanath Jayasuriya entered full destructive mode in Perth, has he been treated with anything less than forelock tugging, forward defensive respect.

"That was some way to go, and he's some batsman," said Dale, "I didn't think I was doing anything other than normal and he was just blasting me round the place. I asked somebody what I should do and was told there was nothing you can do."

Dale conceded 51 runs in six overs, the consolation being that he was not the first bowler to be Sanathed. That mauling apart (and it was splendid to watch, no matter the dictum that line and length bring their own reward) his bowling has yielded fewer than three runs an over throughout the triangular tournament.

"I'm trying to make the batsman think all then time, giving him nothing that he might take a fancy to," he said. "I just keep it there. I know I'm not the quickest bowler he has not been picked again. around so I have to use other weapons."

Dale's action is polished and fluid and he is lovely to watch with the white new ball. He is 29 and provides convincing evidence that not every Australian international cricketer was discovered in the cradle and had his name put down for Adelaide Academy before learning to walk.

Born and brought up in Victoria, he was overlooked for all the state age-group sides and was never assumed to be Sheffield Shield material. On moving to Queensland - "for work reasons, not cricketing

ones" - the opposition was similarly stiff, but his accuracy earned him a place in the state squad. There he came under the influence of John Buchanan, whose services were dispensed with by Middlesex after only one summer in 1998, but who is still considered a guru in northern

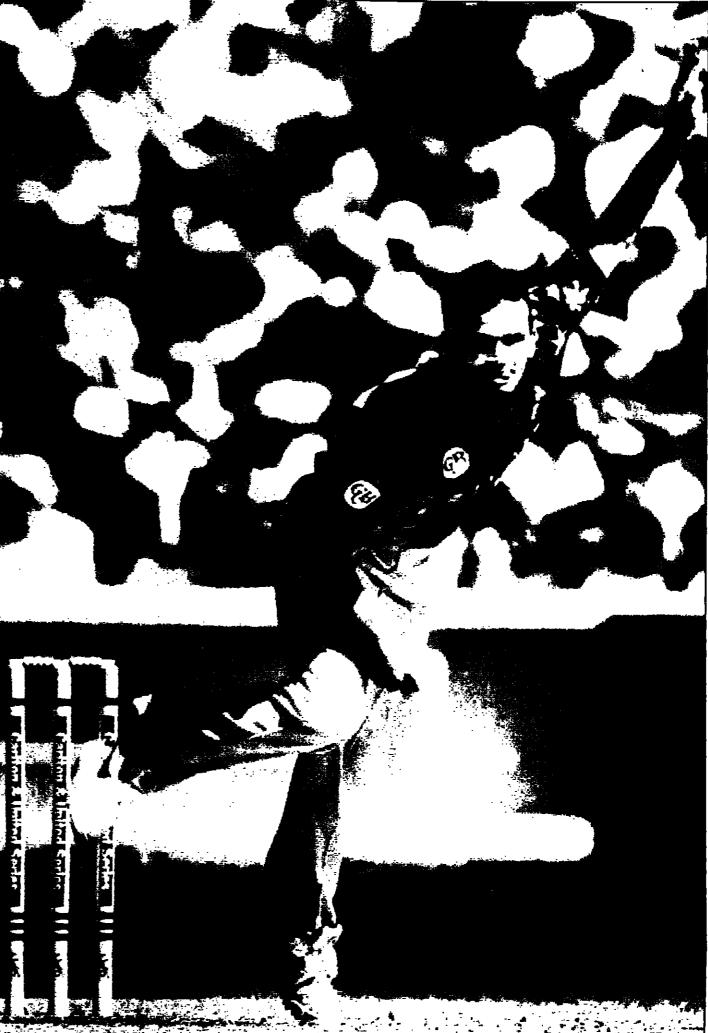
"He has the ability to speak to players as individuals, to bring out the best of them, to express what they can and can't do well and how they might improve," said Dale. "He surrounded himself with exceptionally good coaching staff and I learned a lot there. I don't know if I'd have got as far as this without their help, but everything just fell into place with moving jobs and getting that sort of encouragement."

Dale broke into the Queensland side and at the end of his first full season took nine wickets in the Sheffield Shield final against Western Australia in Perth. He was just thinking what a pretty good effort that was when he was told he was on the Australian tour of South

"I hadn't thought a thing about it. It's still a matter of wonder to me that Γ m bowling in the same side as Glenn McGrath and Shane Warne. These guys are heroes to me. I'm what it did for the bowler's trust in still full of nerves whenever I play for Australia. You ought to see me in my room beforehand."

Dale has played one Test match, on the tour of India last winter, notable for being a series that Australia actually lost under Mark Taylor's captaincy. They were already 2-0 down when Dale was selected for the final match, and although they won

The chances are that his relative lack of penetration in the longer game make him easier to overlook, and he is probably likely to remain a one-day specialist. "Of course the chances of being in England for the fundamental skills are the same, but World Cup. He toured Scotland and they are evolving differently. There Ireland last summer with Australia are things I do as a bowler in the A and suspects, no more, that the



Australia's Adam Dale shows aggression during the current Carlton & United triangular one-day series

longer game that I just wouldn't do in the one-day game."

He is still so in awe of it all that he would not be drawn on his

much in this regard but the vision of him making the ball hit the seam and moving it laterally next spring

is not easily dismissed. In common with most Australian cricketers, his international duties

pitches might suit him. It was im- do not prevent him holding down a Wynum Manly, where one of his portant not to encourage him too full-time job. True, his promotions post with the rugby shirt makers. Canterbury, means he can have time off when he wants but he still has to return between matches. He not only still plays for Queensland

team-mates is Stuart Law.

"I enjoy playing, but the standard is so high that if I didn't play and somebody else did well in my place then I might not get back. There's real competition." So said the man

Tourists given impetus by Bell

BY SPENCER WRIGHT in New Plymouth

England Under-19 285 and 290 New Zenland Under-19 202 and 30-0

ENGLAND'S UNDER-19 spinners will have the responsibility of bowling their side to victory on today's final day here, and giving the tourists a 1-0 lead in the "Test" series against New Zealand.

England's batsmen, led by the 16year-old Ian Bell, were bowled out for 290 to set the Kiwis a massive 374 to win the first Test. Although the home side reached the close on 30 for 0 without suffering any scares. they will have to bat well on a turn-

ing wicket to stave off deleat Bell, the Warwickshire right-hander, batted superbly for 91 and looked set for a hundred when he slipped as he backed up and was run out. His partnership of 111 for the second wicket with the captain Michael Gough, who ground out 43, set the foundations for what should be an unassailable lead.

After playing himself in, Bell took command of the situation, butting the off-spinner Ben Jansen for three fours in an over to bring up his fifty. He looked in complete control and it took a freak dismissal to remove him from the crease.

However, only the Surrey left-hander Michael Carberry, of the other recognised batsmen, offered much resistance as England's innings faltered after lunch. But the Somerset seamer Matt Bulbeck produced an aggressive knock of 51, including a bulled six into the car park off the spinner Bruce Martin.

Bulbeck eventually holed out to deep square leg off the same bowler. having put on a valuable 48 for the last wicket with the wicketkeeper Mark Wallace. Martin, the Kiwi slow left-armer, took 5 for 76, including the last three wickets to fall.

Gough only allowed Graeme Bridge, the slow left-armer, and Richard Dawson, the off-spinner, an over each before the close, preferring to use the seamers, Bulbeck and Richard Logan.

Third day, England Under-19 won loss SLAND UNDER-19 – First Insilags 285 (R K wson 67, RJ Logan 63, 1N Flanagan 53, H Shave

ENGLAND UNDER-19 - Second Innings ENGLAND UNDER-19 - Second Ins
(Overnight: 47 for 1)

*M A Gough c Englefield b Marton
IR Bell run out
M A Carberry c McGlashan b Hendry
J K Mounders c Gallespie b Hendry
J K Mounders c Gallespie b Hendry
IR K J Davison c McIntosh b Marton
M P Bubbeck c Pacton b Marton
J R Tucker c Gillespie b Hendry
R J Logan b Marton
G R Bridge st McGloshan b Martin
IM A Wabace not out
Extrass (b15, lb10, w4)

Total (107.1 overs).

Fall (cont): 2-139, 3-179, 4-195 5-213, 6 Fall (cont): 2-139. 3-179. 4-195 5-213. 6-215. 7-225, 8-236, 9-242.

Allsport Bowling: Shaw 12-3---2-0; Frankin 7-1-19-0; Gite-spie 7-1-18-1; Martin 40 1-16-76-5; Jansen 24-6-69-0; Hendry 17-3-41-3 NEW ZEALAND UNDER-19 - Set I McIntosh not our

To batt "I Englefield, I Franklin, M Gifespie M Hendry, B Jansen, 1P McGlashan, B Martin, S Patter, H Shak **Bourling:** Bulbeck 4-1-14-0 Logan 4-0-7-0 Bridge 1-0-1-0; Dawson 1-0-4-0

Spin of Saglain torments India

THE PAKISTAN off-spinner Saqiain
Mushtaq resumed his role as India's in New Delhi main tormentor with another fivewicket haul on the opening day of the India 247 for 8 v Pakistan second Test here yesterday.

Saglain, who took 10 wickets in Pakistan's 12-run win in the opening test, teased the batsmen with his strict line and length. He rocked India with 5 for 94 after they had made a promising start. The home ide, who won the toss and at one stage were 231 for 4, ended the day on 247 for 8.

Saqlain and the leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed, who took two wickets, ripped through the middle order. After a useful 88-run opening partnership between Sadagopan Ramesh, who made 60, and Vangipurappu Laxman (35), only India's captain, Mohammad Azharuddin, seemed at ease.

Ramesh, who was also dropped stylish half-century but was bowled

after adding 10 more runs as he went for a pull off a delivery from Saglain which kept low. He hit seven fours. Azharuddin scored a masterly 67 off 134 balls, hitting seven fours and a six over mid-wicket off the legspinner Shahid Afridi.

India lost their first wicket just after lunch when Wasim Akram uprooted Laxman's stumps with an inswinger Saqlain struck again soon after taking Ramesh's wicket, collecting the wicket of Sachin Tendulkar, who decided to play after recovering from muscle spasms suffered in the opening Test.

Tendulkar was trapped leg before for six - he had previously glanced the pace bowler Wagar Younis for a fine when he was on 24, completed a four - but he was out leg-before to relieved when Tendulkar, who sur-Saglain to leave India on 122 for 3.

Azharuddin and Rahul Dravid steadied the innings with a partnership of 69 but, soon after tea, Dravid was caught low on 33 to

Saglain as he went on the back-foot. The left-hander Saurav Ganguly crawled to 13 off 57 balls as the spinners tightened the noose and he also fell leg before to Mushtaq.

Azharuddin was caught by Ijaz Ahmed at first slip off the bowling of Mushtaq as he tried to play a delivery that rose sharply. Tail-enders Anil Kumble and Javagal Srinath both fell cheaply and by the close Pakistan had gained the upper hand.

India's Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, and the opposition leader, Sonia Gandhi, briefly visited the stadium to watch the game, the second in the two-match series marking the resumption of Tests after more than a decade.

Before the match India had been vived muscle spasms after his one change each from the teams that played in Madras. India swapped the left-arm spinner Sunil Joshi for the off-spinner Habhajan Singh, while for Pakistan Mushtaq

took the place of the left-arm spinner Nadeem Khan. First day, India won toss INDIA - First Inalings

"M Azharuddin c ijaz Ahmed b Musi S C Ganguly Ibw Mushtaq 1N R Mongia not out A Kumble c Yousuf b Saqlain Extras (11b, 75b, 6nb) Total (for 8, 89.5 overs)247 Patt: 1-88, 2 113, 3-122, 4-191, 5 231, 6-240, 7-

PAINIS (ZIN): Saeed Anwar, Shahid Afridi. Ijaz Ahmed, Inzaman-ul-haq Yousuf Youfana, Saleem Ma-lik, 1Mole Khan, "Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis. Saqban Mushtaq, Mushtaq Ahmed.

245. o-247. To back Venkatesh Prasad, Harbhajan Singh Bowfing: Washn Akram 12-3-20-1; Wagar Younis 13-5-37-0; Mushcan Ahmed 26-5-64-2; Saqian Mushtaq 34.5-8-94-5; Shahid Afridi

both the short and long-term. He trived finish. added that the board was deeply concerned about the team's performance. In South Africa, the West earn with figures of 5 for 48. Zimday series. One piece of good news tour to the Caribbean because of a begin until after lunch. torn tendon in his shoulder.

rain ruins England's day valiant 136 in the second innings at The West Indies Cricket Board THE ENGLAND A team's hopes of By MARK HARGREAVES

Thomas takes five but

Madras, declared himself fit. How-ever, both teams elected to make team's dismal performances in official "Test" against Zimbabwe South Africa. The West Indies team were dealt a major blow when the manager, Clive Lloyd, coach Mal-third day's play here was restricted colm Marshall and captain Brian by rain to just under 20 overs.

Lara have been summoned to a Zimbabwe moved from their meeting in Antigua next week. The overnight score of 95 for 6 to 147 for WICB's chief executive officer. 7 before the rain came down after 75 Stephen Camacho, said the meeting minutes of play. Less than four of the would focus on the reasons behind 18 scheduled hours of play so far have the team's poor form and develop- been possible due to rain, and a draw ing plans for West Indies cricket in now seems inevitable without a con-Glamorgan's seam bowler Darren

Indies suffered their first ever 5-0 re- babwe's Stuart Carlisle, hoping to get versal in a Test series. They are also his full Test place back after a two-4-1 down in the best-of-seven one- year absence, reached 46 not out. The outfield at the Alexandra

Thomas removed Bryan Strang to

for West Indies is that Australian Club had turned into a lake at the end pace bowler Darren Fleming has of the second day, so it was not albeen all but ruled out of his side's together surprising that play did not

Foreigners hold key to glory

Strang and Carlisle had been

Zimbabwe A 147-7 v England A

compiling the largest partnership of the innings, adding 45 for the seventh wicket, when Strang edged Thomas to Andy Flintoff at second slip.

The Zimbabwe captain, Andrew Whittall, ensured that the loss would not result in further collapse by playing straight with Carlisle. By mid-afternoon, however, the rain clouds had returned, forcing the players from the field again.

Third dain England A won tess ZIMBABWE A - First linnings (Overnight 95 for 6) S V Carliste not out
B C Strang c Flintoff b Thomas
A R Whittali not out

Fail (cont): 7-114 To bat: A Huckle, E Matambandao **Bowling: Betts 18-4-61-2. Finto!! 12-5-24-0.** Thomas 17 2-3-48-5. Cosker 5-1*-8-*0 Umpires: I D Robinson and N C Sarbour

Autissier returning to sea of sorrow

A MONTH of battling back through the southern ocean may be meat and Frink to the 42-year old French solo sailor Isabelle Autissier. But, as she leaves Auckland tomorrow for the third leg of the Around Alone Race the attempt. Roufs was lost. to Punta del Este, Uruguay, she wili not be able to forget the last time she was in that stretch of water which leads to the notorious Cape Horn.

That was in the Vendée Globe Race of 1996-97 and, already struggling with gear damage, she received a call from the organisers that her friend, the French Canadian Gerry Roufs, was in trouble. She turned of picking up a top-three place as the back to search for him, but ran into

BY STUART ALEXANDER

a major storm and had to abandon

This time Autissier is in the lead of a depleted Class One for 60-footers with her two main rivals, Giovanni Soldini and the Frenchman Marc Thiercelin, breathing down her

is a tough lady. In fourth place is Britain's Josh Hall, well back on time but capable weather takes its toll of those ahead of him. Another Briton, Mike Gar- make it to the start line. Already on side, is second in Class II for 50-footers and will need a major breakdown by the leader, Jean-Pierre Mouligne, to move up, as well as a major effort from himself to hold off America's Brad Van Liew in third place.

The race which started with 16 entries is down, officially, to 11, although two more, the Russian Fedor Konioukhov and the Cornishman Robin neck. It is a tough call, but Antissier Davie, who has yet to finish leg two, have said they will keep going as unofficial competitors.

AROLAND ALCHE RACE Second leg (Cape Thom to Auckland): 1 G Soldini (Fila) 27 days 5 hours 24 mh 52 sec; 2 M Thiercelin (Somewhere) 28, 20, 42, 00; 3 i Aucksie (FPRB) 28, 21, 53, 24; 4 J Hali (Cartmore) 33, 00, 13, 31, Class 18; 1 I-P Mouligne (Cray Valley) 29, 09, 49, 27; 2 M Gardiel (Magelian Alpha) 35, 16, 49, 56; 3 B Van Llew (Balance Bar) 35, 16, 52, 17; 4 V Yazykov (Wind of Change) 36, 00, 16, 00; 5 M Salto (Shuondoh) III) 52, 14, 00, 20; 6 N Petersen (No Barriers) 52, 01, 12, 27; 7 N Hunter (Paladin II) 54, 21, 09, 10. The American George Stricker retired on leg one from Charleston, and the Canadian Sebastian Reidi did not

draw from the race.

YET ANOTHER sell-out is expected its way back to Europe is Mike at Crystal Palace this evening for the sport's night of the year. Indoor fi-Golding's Team Group 4. In the overall lead of Class I nearing the nals night has always been hotly conend of leg two from Cape Town, Goldtested and this year, with an ing hit a sandbank off North Island's increasing number of foreign players playing for English clubs, pre-Cape Reinga, doing so much damage to the keel he was forced to withdicting the finalists becomes

increasingly difficult Twice-winners East Grinstead have been finalists on seven occasions and runners-up in the last two years. They are in the same pool as Southgate and the defending champions, Reading, who beat them by the odd goal in 17 last year.

The north London club has, in the

BY BILL COLWILL

past, made the occasional flurry into the indoor game without much success. This year, with Germany's Eiko Rott as captain and coach, fellow countryman Torben Gottschau and Austrian Grant von Maver. along with Australia's Max Diamond and Todd Williams, they should provide sterner opposition.

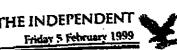
Grinstead also have their foreigners – South Africa's Jamie Brown and the Belgian Ed Cabay, but their strength is likely to come

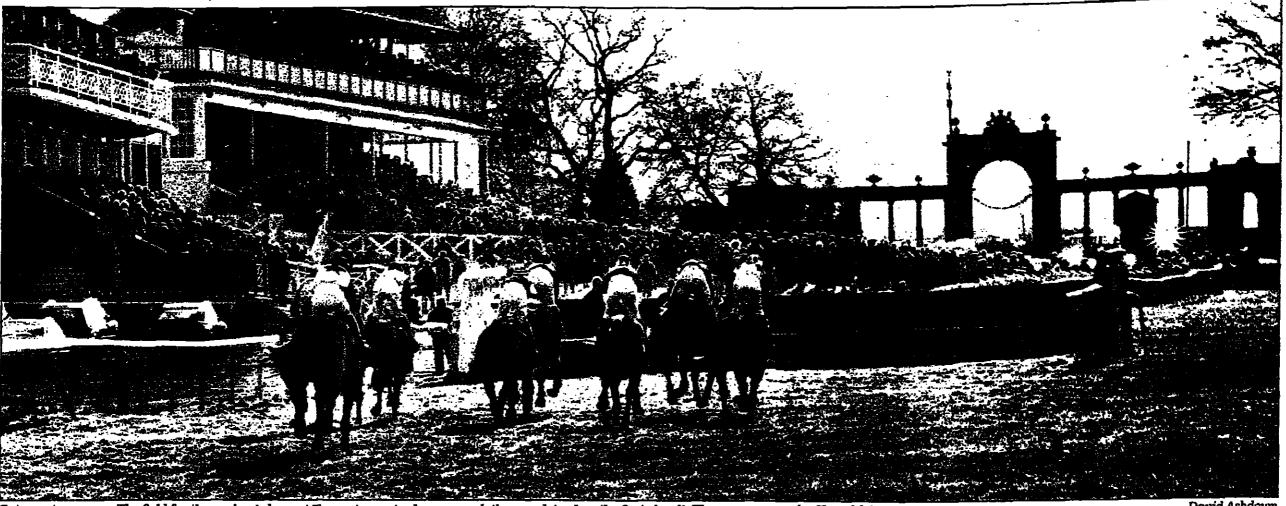
from the experience of Richard Leman, Richard Organ, Mahmond Bhatti and goalkeeper Jon Clark Their manager, Steve Kent, said:

We are quietly confident. We have a blend of Grinstead experience and international youth." It would be a brave man to place money on the finalist from this pool.

Old Loughtonians, winners in 1995 and 1996, have been drawn in the easier pool and should make the final with something to spare. They have an experienced squad with outstanding players and it is difficult to see Barford Tigers or Hull standing in their way of a final appearance.

digital





Gateway to success: The field for the novices' chase at Towcester yesterday approach the grandstand on the first circuit. The race was won by Cheerful Aspect

Handicapper throws his weight about

rules in the world of employment are that coal miners get dirty, lawyers overcharge, and handicappers are unpopular topher Mordaunt as the BHB's with trainers. If your job is to hand out racing weights, when even a pound can make the difference between success and failure, it is inevitable that someone will always end up feeling aggrieved, and probably trainers have expressed an-

Rarely, though, does a handicapper come in for the sort of sustained criticism which has been directed at Phil Smith and a 2016 increase for Flaxley over the past couple of days. Wood, who won a novice chase

By GREG WOOD

Smith recently replaced Chrissenior chase handicapper, having spent several years rating sprinters on the Flat, at the other end of the equine scale in terms of age and distance. Since then, a succession of willing to tell the world about it. novance at some of his decisions, such as a rise of 8lb for General Wolfe's four-length victory in the Peter Marsh Chase,

but only after Unsinkable Boxer, the hot favourite, fell.

Toby Bakling, the chairman of the National Trainers' Federation's jumps committee, said yesterday that Smith had "a totally new way of handicapping. Our real problem is that he's a relative new boy, and a mathematician who's handicapped nothing but Flat horses. I've been getting lots of messages from trainers who think they're hard done-by, and I think it needs to be discussed."

Balding feels that that the

account is the peculiar nature of the jumping herd," he said. Most of them live with injury, lots of them disappear for long

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Palais (Southwell 4.20) NB: Be Brave (Catterick 2.30)

lengths of time, and if you're actually lucky enough to get a horse back and to get it winning. finer points of training jumps you don't want it handicapped

horses are being overlooked. out of existence as soon as it's hikes his horse in the weights, "What he hasn't yet taken into won. A jumper can win by 12 he can hardly complain if the lengths, but the second may not have jumped, or handled the ground. The variables are so much bigger, and distances aren't really what it's about."

As Balding admits, Bob Buckler's complaints about the handicapping of Flaxley Wood are "probably not the best example". Flaxley Wood might or might not have won had Unsinkable Boxer stayed on his feet, but a more important point is that he was racing from 15lb out of the handicap. When a trainer, in effect, personally

horse runs well and the handicapper treats the form literally.

Some of Smith's other decisions, though, seem to have less to back them up. When Looks Like Trouble, who is trained by Noel Chance, won a novice chase at Doncaster in which only five of the 12 starters reached the finish, and Princeful was among the fallers, he went up 17lb. "He's basically been told, you've got lucky, now that's you," Balding said.

Balding and any other trainers who care to attend, will be

meeting with Smith, as well as the horses can be very tired at Paul Greeves, the BHB's rac- the end. But Phil Smith is pering director, a week today. Greeves, though, is steadfast in

his defence of the man he appointed to succeed Mordaunt. "Change is always a bit unsettling," he said yesterday, "and that's what is happening here. To suggest that Phil Smith is incompetent is just utter nonsense and not worthy of anybody. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to work out the difference between the Flat and jumps, and that is that the

horses can fall over, and the dis-

fectly well aware of that."

Greeves says that "we are always happy to discuss these matters with trainers, provided they come through the right channels". Whether the trainers will be any happier after next week's meeting is rather less certain - but then, perhaps that simply means that Smith is doing his job.

■ A recurrence of leg trouble may keep Danoli out of the lineup for the Hennessy Gold Cup at Leopardstown on Sunday.

Catterick 3.30

C H L S T

CATTERICK

2.00 Splendid Melody 2.30 Crabbie's Pride 3.00 Turnpole

3.30 Sharp Command 4.00 Minster Glory 4.30 Disco Tex

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places).

M. Laft-hand, undulating, sharp course. Not suitable for long-striding horse. Run-in 240yds.

M. Course is NW of town on A6136. Derlington station 14m – tous service to course.

ADMISSION: Cub ST2; Tattersalls 25; Course 22.50 (under 195 free into all enclosures).

CAR PARK: Reserved area 52. remainder free.

M. LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs. M. Reveloy 27-176 (23.3%), M. Hammsond 15-135 (11.1%), G.

M. Moore 13-76 (17.1%), Mrs. S. Smith 13-703 (12.6%).

M. LEADING JOCKEYS: P. Niven 27-95 (28.4%), R. Garnitty 15-81 (19.9%), A. S. Smith 13-95 (13.7%), B. Storey 13-157 (8.3%).

FAVOURITIES: 128 wirs from 367 races (success rate 5.3%).

R. INKERPIN EIGST THEF. Discr. The College for Conference Mill Discrept 3.3%

	2	.00	EBF 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICE HURDLE (QUALIFIER (CLASS D) £4,000 2m 3f Penalty Value £2,980
ı	1	1-0531	SPLENCID MELODY (14) (BT Stewart Brown) T Table 5 ft 5
1	2	322	ACKZO (69) (EF) (P E Alkerson) F Murphy 6 11 0
ı	3	48-04	JOLLY MINISTER (36) (D G Albinson) Mrs M Reveley 5 11 0
ı	4	40	MEADOWBANK (11) (G.E. Shouler) M.W. Easterby S. 11 (1
1	4 5 6 1	0-04	RIVER DOUGLAS (50) (G B Tumbul Ltd) Mrs A Swinbank 7 11 0
ı	6	60-000	ROCKY MY BOY (11) (J Henderson (Co Durham)) Mrs S Smith 5 tt 0 R Williamon (5
ı	7	30-40	RODDERS (41) (R W Metalie) J Glover 6 11 0R Gener
١	7 3 9	5P-500	SCOTMAIL BOY (50) (G Brown/B Walsort) J H Johnson 6 11 C
Į	9	0-3	STEELERS DREAM (13) (8 E W Hogans) T Easterby 7 to 0
ı	10	00-03	MARTHA'S MOONSTONE (29) (Mrs L A Trinion) J Creation 5 109

BETTING: 4-6 Splendid Melody, 9-4 Action, 6-1 Steam, 10-1 Mendowbenk, 14-1 July Min-ster, 20-1 Rodden, Mertha's Moonstons, 33-1 others ster, 20-1 Roddens, Marthu's Moonstone, 33-1 others 1998: Jessica One 7 11 0 P Niven 7-4 for (Mrs M Reveloy) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Splendid Melody: Looked above average novice on his 5 lengths 3rd to Tonoco at Haydock (2m, soft) and confirmed his class with 28 lengths win over Mr Busty at Kelso (2m2), heavy, Extra furlong should be no problem and appears the one to beat Ackso: Placed in bumpers, before promising neck debut 2nd of 17 to Sir Bob at Newcestle (3m nov. good to soft), that Sir Sale isocuritie and prominent throughout. Obviously well thought of and sure to be a factor, but shorter the or dighter course a worry JoBy Minister: Signs of improvement when, close up 2 out, 13 lengths 4th of 4 to Es Go in lovier gode here 2m, good to soft), that of hor firm, but plenty to find Meadowbanic Promise when 18 lengths 4th to Carbury Cross on Wetherby debut (2m4), heavy) but hampered and unsented nater next time. Looks capable of better River Douglass Son of Rossiler melting hundes debut. Has shown some ability in bumpers and is worth a check in the market. Rocky My Boy: No sign of ability in times debut. Has shown some ability in bumpers and is worth as the stage of ability in times (2m4), soft) in Dec. but reported to have breathing problem and possibly best welched Scotimali Malit. Little sign of ability and 38 lengths 4th to Kingernie at Newcaste (2m4), soft) in Dec. but reported to have breathing problem and possibly best welched Scotimali Malit. Little sign of ability and 38 lengths 14th of 19 over C&D istest. Steelers Dream: Promasing 21 lengths 3rd to Barton Bill in bumper here lest month and worth noting in the betting on hunde debut VERDICT: it is likely to take a useful sort to hait sign in the betting on hunde debut VERDICT: it is likely to take a useful sort to hait sign and the stage of debut to the stage of th

VERDICT: It is likely to take a useful eart to halt SPLEMDID MELCOV, whose confidence should have been tocoated by his easy Kelso win. Actions is the obvious damper, but signs are that the trip and course will be too steep for him.

0	30	DINSDALE CONDITIONALS SELLING HANDIC	AP HUR
Ľ	30	DINSDALE CONDITIONALS SELLING HANDIC DLE (CLASS G) £2,500 2m 3f Penalty Value £	2 178
1	61 104	UTURANO CIO (C H Sigure) 7 Fastado 8 12 0	C Comment (
2	2027-81	BC DNAVE (13) (C) (M/S S Parsons) T Physionics 9 11 11	
3	P0500P	KATIYMANN (SU) (P Campbell) El Elison 7 11 9	
4	voe	CHARGOGE & PHILLIE CAN ICAL HIP I HIVE MEST HOMEN MES & CHARGO I II	
5	0/340	MOONSHINE DANCER (365) (C BF) (Asigns Archer) Mrs S Smith 9 11 8.1	Trompieco
6	rru-uu	MUSS-5 MUNSKAN (13) IM VERSON MIS M Reseto 9 t. 9	CI-
7	23-406	KAKASHDA (13) (J.H. Johnson) J.H. Johnson 8 11 8.	طا 9
8	UD3	JALA CLUSH (13) R311 (Dank A Smith) R Holman 5 4 5	T CLAL
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14			
5	6P-056	CRESTOP (21) (M Breman) M Barres 6 10 8	A AUDUS
16	-55243	SEFTON BLAKE (36) (Mrs 8 J Le Gros) M Meagher 5 10 4	HC.OTTEC
17	1PRILP	DON TOCINO (13) (H Bell) T Carr 9 to 0	Magu
15	OPPO-P	CHAN MOVE (39) (W Smith) W Smith 7 10 0	I H Naughtor
19	0245P6	REAL FIRE (41) (M Saunders) M Meagher 5 10 0	N (HEESE)
30	00:000	PACKOTHI PARKY (28) (A A Packaging Ltd) D McCain 6 10 0	. AL DOMBNIA
21	55000P	FIRST POURO AND & Sentent & C. Construct Different Construction	A C Coys
		EDOSE ROMBO (23) (S Birchall & D Sandarson) R Woodhouse 4 10 0	N (202 (4
Min	elaco a sec	- 21 deciared - pht: 10st. Time handicap weighte: Dan Topino Bat 13th, Chan Move 9at 12th	
		ye rose rose rosercap wayshe ban lagana lag rain. Chan Make 9st 12st	L Rool Fire 9

BETTIMO: 5-1 Crabble's Pride, 13-2 Be Brave, Wyobury Flyer, 7-1 Selton States, 8-1 Jack Farsh, 10-1 Durano, 11-1 Court John, 12-1 Jack Flush, 14-1 others

FORM GUIDE

PORM GUIDE

Duranot: Winner from 15th higher in 1597 but showing little lately apart from 8 lengths

Jift to Sant Cel at Haydock (2m, soft) in Nov. New longer trip, but difficult to lancy
Be Braver. Can play a big part on Lelcester 2014 2nd to Apache Brave in Dec and
latest 15 langiths win from Court Joder here (2m, soft). Not overburdened with 7to rise
Kastlymanar: Winner three times in Instand in 1596 but has not shown much in two starts
for new yard this term. Reported to have breathing problem when pulled up islest start
Crabbler's Prider: Three-time C2D winner, the lasest by 5 lengths from Falt flip in Potentian.
Moonsatine Dancer: One-time smart performer, souring from 250 higher of Wethertry in 1995. Lightly raced since and tailed off leaset start a year ago. The market will
probably be the best guide.

probably be the first guide.

Noble Normann Newcastle nowce winner in 1997. Has been chasing since but linte encouragement on return to hunding leave last month when detant 8th of 11 to 8e Brave (Rehashda: 5th a nowce. Failed to respond to bilinters when 19 lengths 6th of 11 to 8e Brave over 2m here (soft) last month and has planty to find Jack Filustic C&D winner from subsequent scorer Oversman in Dec and creditable 17 leavests 2 and the Ball Plants have the soft latest latest the soft latest late

Be Brave over 2m here (soft) lest month and has planty to find used. Flushic G&D winner from subsequent accord Overamen in Dec and creditable 17 lengths 3rd to Be Brave here 2m, soft bless. To better with Be Brave now and itsely to be major player provided ground continues to dry.

Wymbury Flyer: Marked insprovement to beat Kings Husser a head in 2m seler (good to soft) here lest month, with sushed current winer Jago 25 lengths back in third. Likely to be ideally suited by the extra 3f and should be a leading orthander Court Johan: Best race for a long while when, least on, but 15 lengths by Be Brave in 2m seler (soft) here lests. The put with winner stems insufficient to turn the tables Karaytan: Off the course since landing two Sedgefield 2mbi selecs in May 1996. Only 3b higher here and market probably the best guide after long absence Edistons: Wet to score in 8 starts. Chance on 11 lengths 3rd to Cathedral Belle in Sedgefield 2mbi nouce (good to firm) but disappointing both starts since Drumdonner Occasional flashes of ability but maiden effor 15 starts. Plenty to find on latest 19 lengths 5th of 11 to Be Brave in 2m seller (soft) here last month.

Palisander: Showed promise until faling 3 out in Perth novice won by Good Day in August, but was tailed off on his only start since and is difficult to fancy. One Stop: 12 lengths 2nd to Recruitment in this last year from 30 lower but without a win in 17 starts and naming modestely after finishing tame on final 1997-96 start. Setton Bitalet One to consider on unlucky 11 lengths 4th to Brancepath Batte at Market Passan (2mtf nov claime; soft) in December, when binkered first time. Not disgraced on a theory that and should be pasted by longer that on subsequent start and should be sured by longer try
Don Tochno: Ex-pointer-to-pointer, yet to score in 15 starts under Rules and little en-couragement in less two efforts
Chan Move: Unolscod all 14

couragement in set two enons Chain Mowe: Unplaced all 4 starts. Pulled up three times in last four outings Real Pine: Palchy record since novice vin at Perth in 1997. Not disgraced when 11 langths 8th of 10 to Calchury at Mariest Rasen (2m sell hosp, soft) lastet, but plenty to find Packatin Parly; Unplaced all 5 starts. Little obvious sign of ability Eddile Rombo: Unplaced in all 8 starts and virtuelly tailed of last times.

VERDICT: WYNBURY FLYER showed plenty of lighting qualities to catch King's Hus-VEX.DIG 1, WI RESULT I THE STOKED DEBTY OF INTERING QUESTES TO CHECK THE STOKED THE SUBSECTION OF T

	3.00	STAYERS' NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 3m 1f 110yds Penatty Value £4,432
1	5- 0PP 5	HOWYOUDORNG (35) (Mrs G Handley) S Kettlewell 9 1/ 4
2	6365-P	MR WALT (104) (Mr & Mas P Garlingy) J M Jefferson 6 1) 4
3	(33-20)	TURNPOLE (48) (Mrs W J Williams) Mrs M Paveley 8 11 4
4		TWEEDSWOOD (268) (J N Yeadon) P Beaumont 9 11 4R Supple
5	2-8422	SISTER GALE (20) (8F) (8 Van Preach) Mrs S Smith 7 to 13 Mr J Crowler (5)

FORM GUIDE

Howyoudoling: Fell in 2 of his 4 outings over fences last season and made mistakes when 5th (beasen 40 lengths) to Tom's Filver over C&D (good) last moreh. Way out of his depth against Tumpole. Mir Walt: Moderate form in novice hurdles last season and weekened 3 out balone being pulled up at the rest on his reappearance at Carlele (2*/hm hole, heavy) in October. Chealing debut and first nun since Tumpoles. Smart stayer on the Fist and over hurdles. Ran below his best and did not jump well when tailed off behind Princeful at Ascot (3mt1 hole, soft) in December. Hard to appose in this weak event.

Tweedismood: Has not confirmed promise shown over hurdles as a 6vo. Looks chas-

to oppose in this weak event
Tweedawood: Has not confirmed promise shown over hundles as a 6yo, Looks chasing type, but well beaten in S outings over lences test season and has not run since May
Sileter Gallet: Won 5-firisher maiden point at Ampton (good) in March and 2nd on other 3
starts between the flags lest season. Makes mistaless under Rules and struggles to stay 3m

VERDICT: Hurdies form does not always work out in chases, but although TURN-POLE will start at prohibitive odds-on the lences will prove more of a danger to Mary Reveley's 1997 Cesarewitch winter than his four opponents.

13	3.30	TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £7,500	align:
Ľ		added 3m 1f 110yds Penalty Value £5,641	V
1	621-3P	ATTADALE (18) (D) (The Low Flyers Ltd) A Diction 11 11 ()	(Dobb
2	1123F3	CRASAPPLE HILL (125) (Bookies Runner) S Ellison 7 11 9	ᅉᄸ
3	23130	RUSSIAN ASPECT (13) (C) (A G Black) M W Essierby 5 11 6 Mr K R O'I	Ryen (
4	1-2264	MOLSUM (18) (M S Smith) Mrs P Sy 8 m 8	Boller
5	2131-4	CASH BOX (50) (DrT A Wadop) T Carr # 11 6	N Smil
6	P01013	SHARP COMBLAND (5) (CD) (A P Holland & Mrs P Jones) P Eccles 6 11 5 A	Magasi
7	3-21F1	ZAMIHAREER (USA) (78) (Plaw Recing) R Ford 8 10 13	s C Fo
8		SPRINGFIBLD SCALLY (16) (BF) (Mrs M A Had) S Gotings 6 10 8	
Θ	63-223	ARCTIC FOX (36) (CD) (BF) (J Milchell Mrs M Reveloy 7 10 9	P Nik
10	-36253	VILPRANO (SU) (Vibrero Pertnership) D Moffalt 8 10 8	1 16c5
Ħ	-42520	RADAMPOUR (21) (T Polock) J H Johnson 7 10 7A S	Smith
12	463-FP	DARU (USA) (3) (Mrs.) Hughes) R Hollinsheed 10 10 5	Lyons
13	P455	RASCALLY (36) (J. Townson) Mrs S Smith 9 10 3	ndey (
14	-0223P	SAUCY NUN (83) (CD) (P Hext) P Hext 7 10 0	lusba
15	25-OF6	KINDA GROOVY (36) () Park) I Park 10 10 0	/Hera
В	214432	HITCH HIKER (16) (D) (Miss J M State) R Woodhouse 5 to 0	anily (
v	00-P03	ALLERBECK (80) (Nrs.) Lawson) J Goulding 9 to 0	oper (
		- 17 declared -	
		t, Weighte: Saucy Nun 9st 1310, Kinda Groovy 9st 1210, Hitchhiller 9st 1010, Allerbec	
		O allia Carrie de Charac Communa Carlandald Carlle Tambaraca C a Citar	

BETTING: 11-2 Arctic Fox, 6-1 Sharp Command, Springfield Scally, Zachbreer, 8-1 Vilprano, 11-1 Hibritise, Russian Aspact, 12-1 Cairi Box, 14-1 linjaum, Russally, 16-1 Kinda Groovy, 20-1 Al-tadala, Cratappia Hill, Saucy Nun, 25-1 Allarback, Radanpour, 40-1 Opru 1998. Arctic Fox 8 10 8 P Nivon 4-1 lax (Mrs M Reveloy) 11 ren

FORM GUIDE

Attadate: Possibly past his bast and has been dropped 31b since winning at Ascot in 1994, Landed his first success since then at Ketao last season for Pater Montelth and pulled up on first run for new yard last month Crabappie Hill: Won twice over fences in the summer and first run since being sold Crabapple Hill: Won twice over fances in the summer and first run since being sold out of David Nicholson's yeard for 17,000gms. A novice over hurdes and visored first time Russian Aspect: Ran his only disappointing race this seeson here (2m, soft) leaf morth when 7th to Just Lizzie. Here shown he stays farther, but doubt about this hip Molaura: Consistent sort, had excusse (injured back) when tailed off at Leicester (21/m), soft) in December. Tries this trip for the first time and bred to stay.

Cash Box: In good form last season, but 6th above his highest winning mark. Made tale headway when 4th to Titly over C&D (good) in December, beaten a neck by Vilgoramo (3m), who reopposes on the same terms.

Sharp Command: Versatile sort. Won a handicap chase here (good) in December by a neck from Anotic Fox, who is 3th worse off. Also won over hurdes in October (2m%), good to soft), but 6th higher here.

Zamiharner: Beck to form this season and won on first outing for new yeard at Sedge-field Emst, most in October by 7 lengths from Sauter Nam, 8th higher on this (2m5), good to soft), but 6th higher here
Zaminareer: Besk to form this season and won on first outing for new yard at SedgeSeld (2m3); good to soft) in October by 7 lengths from Saucy Num. 9th higher on this
return to hundles after winning over lences
Springfield Scally: Successful 5 times this season in bumpers and novice hundles. 3rd
to Ordinated in first run in a herodosp lest month and more to do off 2th higher mark
Arctic Fox On a 3th higher mark then when winning this lest season. Returns to hundles after 3 outings over lences and just failed by a neck to catch Sharp Command
(3th better off) here (3m1); good) in December
Visipranox Usually makes the frame and stays well, but on a 10th higher mark than when
recoming his lest success at Newcastile Str. could lest season

Visprance Usually makes the frame and stays well, but on a 10b higher mark then when recording his least success at Newcastle (Sm. good) least season.
Rudenpour: Showed ability in bumpers and over hurdles in Instend and ren his best race here in first time bitricers when 2nd to Country Orchicl in November (2mt), good to soft). He equipped with binives for the first time since then.
Dance has never been one to trust and refused to race at Huntingdon less month.
Very reluctant to line up and soon taked off when pulled up at Tearriton on Tuesday.
Restality: Always prominent when 5th to Flat Top over C&D (good) in December, but was bealen 7 lengths by Hitchhilder (3nd) and 7th worse off
Seutor Num: Pulled up latest run at Exister (2m71, good). Could make no impression on the winner from 2 out when 2nd to Zamitareer at Sedgefield (3m31, good to soft) in October and they meet on the same terms.

in October and they meet on the same terms. in October and they meet on the same terms. Kindia Groovy: Driven along to be 6th to Flat Top over C&D (good) in December and has an 8b pull for 8 lengths with Hitchhilder (3rd) and 1b with Rescally (5th) for a length Hitchhilder. Stays well and probably found the trip on the short side at Huntingdon (3rd), soft) last month, but put up a fair performance to finish 2rd to Orahe boil with Springfield Scally, who has a 6th pull, 4 lengths in 3rd. Alterback: Novice huntler, showed first sign of ability when 3rd to Cash For Questions here (3rd), good) in December with Springfield Scally, 4b worse oft 11% lengths 4th 1750HICT.

he're (2013), good) in Ueckinster wan oprusyeest owers, etc wast one is a register on VERDICT: Anothe Fox, who won this last season, returns to hundling after being pieced in all 3 starts over fences, including a neck second to Streep Command here in De-cember. The latter has a 3th pull and also returns to hundling after running that to Gold Cup possible Double Thriller. ZAMHARBER, unlucky not to be unbeaten in three out-ings this season, soos his toughest task to date, but may be insider than most to-lowing a 2-month break. This better ground is probably what he has been waiting for

4.00 MARNE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 26,000 added

	2m St Penany value £4,224	1
23-33F	WEAVER GEORGE (00) (CO) (EF) (Regent Dec Ltd) W Storey 9 11 10	ı
-2F3F1	COUNT KARMUSKI (05) (C) (P E Atlanson) F Murphy 7 to 10	l
	BRAMBLEBERRY (28) (Hampers Racing) Mrs S Smith 10 10 9	
	LA REVIERA (29) (CD) (J Hoop) J Charlot 7 to 6 8 Storey	ı
	TAPATCH (SO) (C) (Mass V Foster) M W Easterby 11 10 4	ı
	MINISTER GLORY (50) (C) (Mss P Harriey) M W Easterby 8 10 3 C McCommack (3)	l
P41P38	MOSS PAGEANT (20) (Mrs FT Welton) J Welton 9 10 2	
-66602	JOE SHAW (13) (F GReepis) Mrs M Reveley 8 to 1G Law	1
	MARLINGFÖRD (29) (CD) (Alts.) Brannari Mrs.) Jorden (2 10 0	
	=9 declared =	

BETTING: 3-1 Missian Glory, 7-2 Wherver George, 9-5 Pegeent, Joe Stars, 18-1 Tapatch, 20-1 Brambleberry 1986: Nellegrily 9 10 5 W Massian 3-1 (Mrs P Sty) 5 rat

FORM GUIDE

here on 7th lower than best wirming mark. Go close

here on 7b lower than best wiming mark. Go close
Count Karnsakit Leeful when his jumping holds up. Pare clear round when besting
Damza 1½ lengths over 2m here (good to soft) latest. 5b higher here but capable of
improvement and should find axtra 3f no problem (stayed 2m4f over hurdles)
Brassbleberry: Winner four times early last season, but running poorly this term. Weighted to play a prominent role but difficult to famoy at present
Lis Rhifera: Form of game length win from Balleswhidden over C&D in Dec working
out, but disappointing over longer trip latest. Handly weighted and one to consider
Tapatich: On a long losing run but getting little mercy from the handicapper and bin
to lengths when 5th of 7 to Demza here (2m hrosp, good) latest start
Minister Glory: On the upgrade this term with 2m reappearance win here and good
7 lengths 2nd to Demza here (absst. On same mark here, but not sure to stay axina 3f
Misse Proceast: Both furnishe forth runner in fine form with Newcastle 2m win and cred-

Notes Pageant Bold-Imping front-runner in fine form with Newcastle 2m win and creditable 17 lengths 3rd to Danbys Gorse over same course (2m-1/4, heavy). Sharp track will suit but this trip stratches his stamina.

Joe Shawr Career best effort when staying-on 11/4 lengths 2nd to Castletown Count over C&D (soft). Open to further improvement but something to find at the weights.

and: On a two-yeer losing run. Little encouragement in two letest efforts VERDICT: Very lew can be ruled out in a very tricky handcap but the most likely improver is JOE SHAW, who left previous form well behind here last time. He will be suited by the fast pace sure to be set by the doubtful stayer Mose Pageent. That early pace could be the downted of Minster Citory, who is also on the upgrade but is not sure to last

17	<u> 1.30 </u>	HARTLEPOOL NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) 53,0 added 4YO 2m Penalty Value 52,430	Ю
L		added 4YO 2m Penalty Value £2,430	
1	3	BARRELBIO (20) (Mrs.J.J.CNeil) J.J.CNeil 10 12	πÜ
2	406	CHESTIANSTED (82) (J Duddy Flaundry 10 2 A Mag	ric.
3	8034P	CROSEY DON (34) (0 Report) E Weymes 10 12	de
4		DELAYED REACTION (F196) (A Militer) M Soveraby 10 12	NO.
5	802	DISCO TEX (53) (BF) (Mybark Recng) M W Essianby 10 12Mr K R O'Ryan (
6		FRED'S IN THE KNOW (FS82) (A Waggott) N Waggott 10 12	Áю
7		GHALI (USA) (F1T3) (JF Couplend) J Couplend 10 12 X John	
ė	à	JACK REEF (15) (LA Mossari) D McCain 10 12	
ē		KING'S HUSSAR (SS) (White Hart in Hames) G M Moore 10 12	
Ð		KONDER (84) (J.S. M Leteure/Unos Restaurant) G M Moore 10 12	
π		MAAZOOM (83) (Newland Paint Partnership) M Soversby 10 12	
2		MADMAN'S MERACE (FR) (14) (V Thompson) V Thompson 10 12	
13		CRLEANS (114) (My Syndicate) T Tate 10 12 R Gard	
×	22	ROVERETTO (38) (Coden Trust Co) Mrs M Feetley 10 12 P M	, 1000
~	-	GOLDENGERLAKCHELLE (F129) (Oak Wood Racing) F Murphy 107	
16		MANSTER MOORGATE (F448) (C N Wilnot-Smith) M W Essiety 107.C McCommed	
7		MY BET (P219) DA'S M & Curtis) J Curtis 107	
16		SCOLD (P222) (A M McArde) G Kelly 107	
•		= 18 decienti =	
95	11110-11	Roverstin, 7-2 Diaco Tex, 5-1 Christianested, 6-1 Konkes, 7-1 King's Hosses, 6-1	Bar
		interpretation of the second s	

atric, 10-1 Orienna, 12-1 My Set, Crosby Don, 15-1 Maszoom, 20-1 Ghali, 25-1 others 198: Count Tony 4 11 5 R Gantiny 4-5 inv (M Hammood) 10 ran

gound suspect. Christiansted: Itish Import, best effort in 3 outings over hurdles when 4th of 10 to Goldanzig at Neven (2m, soft) in October. Failed to stay on next 2 outings, so finis sharp course should with

Crosby Don: No form in 4 runs on Flat. Backed from 14-1 to 8-1 at Ayr (21/sm, heavy) Crossly Den: No infirm if A units on rest scaled star with to 6-1 at any (2) and, nearly less month, but pulled up before 3 out. Sellers look more his mark Delayed Reaction: Wan over 11/m at Follestone (good) in July when trained by Neville Callaghan. First outing for new yard and lengthy absence to overcome Disco Rec Won over finds on the First and out up his best performance overhundles so far when 2nd to Rejetl at Newcastle (2m, soit) in December. Besten 13 lengths. but

so far when 2nd to Rejed at Newcastle (2m, soft) in December. Bésten 13 lengths but will not have to improve much to go close here Pred's in The Knote: Messed lest Flat season and poor form, including a seler, (fin-bihed lest twice) in 3 runs up to 6f as a 2yo, Lodiss an unlikely jumping prospect. Gathit: Promising first run as a 2yo, but most despronting lest Flat season when placed cince (3rd of 4 from 4 outlings at distances up to 1m77 for John Dunlop Jack Read: No sign of ability in 2 runs on the Flat lest year. Not fluent on hunding debut at Ludiov (2m, soft) last month when tailed off 11th of 16 behind British Star (form's Newsor, Found the golden too testion when 4th is Solet (Disease Texture) had been at the Solet (Disease Texture).

at Ludow (2m, soft) last month when tailed off 11th of 16 behind British Star (king's Hussan: Found the going too testing when 4th to Rejet (Disco Tex 2nd) at Newcaste (2m, heavy) in December, but much better effort next this when head 2nd to Wymbury Flyer in a seller over CSD (good) (Contex: Flat vehrer (10f) lest year and held up until meting headway 3 out when 5th to Hunt His at Newcaste (2m, good) in November. Beaten 5 lengths by Crosby Dos. (4th), but should come on for the experience Maszoom: Flat maiden and sold for only 3400gns in July. Best effort over hurdes when 3rd to Free at Kelso (2m, good to soft) in October, but has not not for over 11 weeks. Madment's Mitmage: All-weather winner (8) lest year and made mistakes when always betind on his hurding debut over CSD (soft) lest month. No improvement when tailed of lest of 9 next time (2m, heavy). Orleanse Maiden Flat hendiespper up to 'mat Essed when begien 3 out when lest of 1 finishers behind Simply Gifted on his first run over hurdes at Wetherby (2m, good) in October. Should figure in this match esser race.

in Cobba: Should figure in this much easier race

Roveretic: Runner-up in both outings over hurdles at Edinburgh (2m, good) and over C&D (good). No impression on easy winner Albrighton (Triumph outsider) lest time,

but his locks much easier. Contingrismichatics Only selling class on the Rat last year for Ray Craggs. Unplaced in 6 outings, including the all-weather, liest season at distances up to 11/km. Whitether Microgradia: Lightly reaced on Rat and lest ran in November 1897 when 10th of 12 to Primary Colours at Southwelf (m. AW). My Belt: Won over 51 as a 2 yo and best effort lest season when 2 nd to Repton at Redcar (1 ¼m, good to soft) in July. Has not run since, so long absence against har Scold: Best just one apponent in 3 unplaced runs lest Flat eesson at distances up to

VERDICT: Disco Text's second to Rejet at Newcastle in December was given a boost when the third, Wynbury Ryer, want on to win a safer here from King's Hussian and Jago (winner next time). Usely favourite Roverette's form is nothing out of the ordinary, so a chance is taken with ORLEANS. He was prominent to three out on his hurding debut behind Trumph outsider Simply Gifted at Wetherby in October and has the physique to do well over hurdies.

FIRST SHOW

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So	uthv	vell	3.2	0			Г
	<u>C</u> _	H		8			l _
Ocker	92	11-2	5-1	92	5-1	1	An
Spec Venture	_13-2	6 -1	7-1	7-1	7-1		90
Pleading	7-1	13-2	7-1	7-1	8-1	J. I	<u>Z</u> =
Tom The	8-1	13-2	182	8-1	7-1	1 1	S
John B Music	10-7	9-1	8-1	<u>9-1</u>	<u>8-1</u>		<u>15</u>
Theatre Magic	10-1	11-1	10-1	10-1	114		100
Talched	71-1	12-1	10-1	104	11-1		<u>Pa</u>
Ziggy's Dancer	12-1	12-1	12-1	12-1	12-1	li	9
Elway Prince	14-1	2 -1	11-1	10-1	12.7		Me.
<u>Halia</u>	10-1	12:1	14-1	12-1	11-1		ᄲ
Redoubtable	14-1	12-1	18-1	14-1	18-1	1	_
Young Signing	20-1	20-1	18-1	20-1	14-1	ı	₽
Elton Ledger	15-1	22-1	18-1	15-1	16-1		Kar
Best Quest	30-1	20-1	25-1	20-1	18-1		Re
Double-O	33-1	28-T	28-1	25-1	<u>251</u>		Sa
Prix Star	33-1	33-1	33-1	33-1	33-1	l	44
Eachweir e cu	arter the	antide	aban	. 7 3	2.4	1	De

<u>51 61 112 112 112</u> ingfield Scally 6-1 112 6-1 112 6-1 sareer 51 6-1 6-1 6-1 6-1 o Command 8-1 7-1 6-1 15-2 7-1 10-1 10-1 9-1 9-1 10-1 nn Aspect 10-1 12-1 11-1 10-1 8-1 scally 20-1 16-1 14-1 16-1 16-1 nda Grocovy 25-1 18-1 16-1 20-1 20-1 demposes 20-1 20-1 25-1 20-1 20-1 ucy Num 25-1 16-1 20-1 20-1 20-1 erbeck 40-1 33-1 33-1 33-1 33-1 Seru 50-1 33-1 40-1 33-1 40-1

RESULTS

TOWCESTER Going: Soft (Heavy patches)

C Corat H Wm Hit L Ladordes, S Startley, T Total

1.40: (2m 5f seiling handicap hurdle) 1. OUR SLIMBRIDGE...... McPhall 11-2 1. OUR SLIMBRIDGE O McPhall 11-2
2. Amtilionmenories E Byrns 15-2
3. Mr Christie R Durnscody 14-1
Also: 4-1 fav Claimswan (Sth), 11-2 Belmoral Princese, 7-1 Apache Park, 17-2
Simply (eth.), 9-1 The Flying Doctox, 12-1
Cambo (6th.), Winters Keep, 16-1 Senderse, 3-1 Chily Lad. 50-1 Six Clerks, 66-1
Crazy Horse Dancer.
14 ran. 12, 9, 11-2, 27. (A Carroll, Word).
Total: Win 19, 30-7, 18-600, Tricast: 239442
NR: Adib, Trakelor. No bid for winner.
2. 10: 6m. 1f handican chases.

10 ran. 2, dist, 5, nk. (Miss H Knight, Wan-tage). Tote: win £780; places £170, £110, £230. DF: £1330. CSF: £1786. Tricast: £3511. Tritecta: £10850.

tury Princess. 10 ram. 22, 2%, 9, dist. 13. (S Gollings, 10 ram. 22, 2%, 9, dist. 13. (S Gollings, 10.70); places \$2.30, Louth). Tota: win \$10.70; places \$2 \$2.80, \$110, DF; \$46.70, CSF; \$112.22 3.10: (2m 6t novice chase)
1. CHEERFUL ASPECT_R Johnson 6-4 ter

2 opring Double — C Llewellyn 5-2
3. Browjoshy — D Leefty 11-2
Also: 7-2 Sweet Lord (4th), 25-1 Kentucky
Gold, 33-1 Buffers Match, Majestic Storm,
100-1 Time to Parlez.
8 rám, 15, 92 (H Daly, Ludlow), Totec wn
12:30; places E140, £130, £200, DF: £300,
CSF: £5.32; NR: Mr Edgar.
3.40; (2m handican legar.)

3.40: (2m handicap hurdle)
1. ISMENO Pholley 11-2
2. Province Margine 6-1
3. Cap R IF You Can Jiff R Forristal 3-1 it say 3. Cap it in Vol. Claim July It Fornishal 3-1 it hav Alasc 3-1 it hav Antibilectrous, 6-1 African Sun (681), 12-1 Falcon Ridge (4th), 18-1 Brownings Boy, What Jim Wants, 25-1 Moornlighter (5th), 9 ssn. 13, 12, 2, 3, (O Esworth, Whit-combe), Tota: win 1840; places 12:00, 21:50, 51:30, DF: 514:80, CSF: 535:71 Thic-ast 510744.

4.10: (2m tibyds handcap chase)
1. ROYESTAR ______ R Farrat 3-1
2. Cusingo ______ R Danwoody 3-1
3. Beyond Our Reach _R Johnson 7-4 taw
Also: 7-1 Partiamentarian (5th), 9-1 Mr

Been (4th), 5 ran. 8, 11/4, 18, 21/2. (C Popham, Taunton), Total win \$4,00; places \$190, \$1,80. OF: 2490. CSF: 21100. 4,40: (2m NH Flat recei

Jackpot: Not won. Pool of £4,741.45 carried forward to Catterick today.
Placepot: £27.20. Quadpot: £3.80.
Place &: £28.26. Place 5: £5.78.

KELSO Going: Soft 2.00: 1. KNOCKARA FAIR (B Storey) 1-3 far: 2. Scraptastic 33-1; a. Sallymore 4-1 12 rain. 9. 2. (J Charlon), Totae: E130: £100. £240. £230. DF: £1400. CSF: £2316. NRs: parann, Kimoliny.

Colmaram, Kimothy.
2.30: 1. RADIATION (FI McGrath) 4-6 lay; 2.
Castle. Red 14-1: 3. Gueena B-figade 8-1.
7 ran. 2'A, 24. (J.) O'Nell). Tone: E170; E120.
E180. DP: 2250 CSF: E305 NFI: Artert Scout.
3.00: 1. OPTIMISTIC CHRIS (J. Goldsten).
6-1: 2. Briano 9-4: 3. Uniform: 11-10 law. 6
ran. 8. 6. A Streets; Tone: E780; 9490, E140.
DF: E1370. CSF: E1604.
3.30: 1. DAVY BLAKE (A S. Synth). 5-1; 2.
Swanbister 2-1 lay: 3. Tough Test 7-2 8
ran. 1, 4. (T. Deigetty). Tote: 2570; E240.
E150. DF: E480. CSF: E7123. NFS: Better
Times Alvead, Brambieberry. Better Times

Times Ahead, Brambleberry, Better Times Ahead (8-1) withdrawn not under orders. Puls A seat 16-1) wire reward not under orders. Aufe 4 deduction on all bets, 10p in the pound. 4.00: 1. KR. BUE KONG (A Dobbin) 11-4; 2, Grooving 9-4 fax; 3. Geospel Song 4-1, 11 ran, 13. 8; Morseith, Tota: 55-0; 52-0, 59-0 C180. DF: 53:10. CSP: 58:70. Tricast: 52:173. 4.30: 1. ANDY MEIRINETT 04-0 Greens 8: 4. LTSU DF: 283U COF: 287V INCSSC 22VS 4.30: 1. ANDY BURNETT (Mr B Gibson) 5-1; 2. Cool Nuta 15-1; 3. Craig Burn 7-1 12 vm., 7-2 fav Young Sewen (8th), Nx, 21, (Mass 5 Forster), Note: 5450; 52-10, 5230, 5190, DF: 54860. CSF: 57757, Nr. Majdry Doo.

Cong: Standard

1.50: 1. SQUIRE CORRSE (A Cultone) 11-2;

2. Hise 'n Shine 10-1; 3. Half Tone 100-30 (16x-10 van. 100-30) (16x barde Times. 11/k, 1/k (0 Chapman). Tole: 5740; 5200, 5280, 5180. DT: 23400 CSF: 55723. Titrast: 52056;

2.20: 1. ALAMEN (Abr. Greenes) 13-8 tav: 2. Pericles 12-1; 2. Speedy Classic 5-2, 1/k rat. 51-ht. dead-1x (0 Nichols). Tole: 5280; 510, 5210 THO, Speedy Classic £190, Periodes £230.
DF: Alamein, Speedy Classic £260. Alamein, Periodes £230.
DF: Alamein, Speedy Classic £260. Alamein, Periode £239.
250: 1. KERNET (J Cultri) 6-1; 2. Beeji 5-2.
250: 1. KERNET (J Cultri) 6-1; 2. Beeji 5-2.
3. Satrie 20-1 8 rim. 15-8 for Mansa Musa (Bit). 10, 11/4. (P Curtole), Totae 5550; £220.
210, DLSO. DF: \$750. CSF: £507. STRO BASO DF: STRO CSF: CSRT.

3.20: 1. ITALIAN SYMPHONY C COGEN!
7-1; 2. Flying Officer & 15 tex.; 3. Steamroller Stanly 6-1. 5 ran., 17., 5. (P Evans).

Toss: 589: 5300, 510. DF: 5190, CSF: 51001

3.50: 1. TOTOM (W Ryen) 10-5 tex.; 2. Kings:
Arrow 9-2; 3. Book Orientel 12-1. 6 ran., 3.
5. (Farshame), Toke: 52-40; (10), 52-10. DF:
CSOO, CSF: 51023, NR: Hol De Davise (2-1)
withdrawn not under orders. Rule 4 deduction in board prices only. 5p in the pound.
4.20: 1. DONIE AND DUSTED (F Norton)
10-1; 2. Diemond Geezer 6-1: 3. Thins's Per
20-1 11 ran., 13-8 iaw Braby (5th). 17., 17., 17.,
(R Amherica), Tota: 52331; (330, 530, 540).
DF: 50710. CSF: 56355, Throsis: 5133-68.
Placeport: 52100. Quadport: 5800





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British Committee of States, 1999.

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Rugby League: New sponsorship deal helps clubs outside Super League start the new season in optimistic fashion

Single division has a single vision

THE RACE between professional clubs outside Super League will have a new name and a new profile when their

season kicks off this weekend What were once the first and second divisions are celebrating a sponsorship deal that will see them become the Northern Ford RFL Premiership for 1999 and, provisionally, for two subsequent seasons.

For a competition that has struggled for recognition in reit has lacked has been exposure cent seasons and which will and this money will be used to

By DAVE HADFIELD

next year, the link-up with an international name - or at least its north of England dealerships - is a morale-boosting coup

"The product on the field has improved out of all recognition," the chairman of the soon-to-berenamed First and Second Division Association, Bob McDermott, said as the deal was announced yesterday. "All

not been revealed, but Ford showrooms will also be expected to strike up relationships with their local clubs and advertise the Premiership alongside their new models.

Their hope - and no doubt that of the clubs - is that negotiations for a magazine-style programme on terrestrial television will soon come to a successful conclusion. The clubs excluded from the British game's élite can then realisti-

The amount involved has known name, the other obvious difference when the season begins on Sunday afternoon will be that two divisions have merged into one, consisting of

While the carrot of winning the Grand Final at the end of September and elevation to Super League – just as Wakefield did last year - remains in place, the viability of the Premiership depends on the calibre of the competition.
The first division was fierce

dictable last year; there is a danger of more one-sided games now that the weaker clubs from the depths of the Second Division are being asked to step up a level,

Even the worst, though, like Doncaster and Workington, are making strenuous efforts to improve themselves, with outstanding players of their era, like Garry Schofield in South Yorkshire and Andy Platt in Cumbria, spearheading their

by another Great Britain stalwart, Steve Hampson, showed in winning the Second Division and reaching the final of the Treize Tournoi that they have potential, but the top five should really come from the sides that performed well in the First Division last time.

Featherstone, heartbroken after falling at the last hurdle, have regrouped well. They were bound to lose players, notably Steve Collins to Gateshead and Karl Pratt to

Lancashire Lynx, coached Leeds, but in Hitro Okesene and the returning Brendon Tuuta they believe they have the players to raise spirits and make the Lionheart Stadium as formidable a fortress as it was as plain old Post Office Road.

> Hull KR finished second in the table and, although they are still restricted by being in administration, they have hung onto the most exciting player outside Super League, the impeccably loyal Stanley Gene. Swinton and Widnes are two

clubs with excellent facilities and ambitions to step up to Super League, whilst the new Whitehaven coach, Kevin Tamati, believes that he has the talent at his disposal to win the competition

Of course, this is the stage of the season when everyone is optimistic. But for the community clubs of the game, as they sometimes like to style themselves, this was a day when there was some substance attached to the feelgood sentiments.

Fox builds after double tragedy

FOR THE Rochdale Hornets' player-coach, Deryck Fox, this winter has been a trauma he would like to forget, but which he knows he never will.

The former Great Britain scrum-half has been to the fu- friend over the Pennines to be isation of his squad, Fox now nerals of two of his players, one of them his closest friend in the

The death of Karl Marriott in the autumn, at the age of 27, was a devastating blow in itself. "I only coached him for a few months, but I had a great respect for him as an opponent, for his strength and toughness," Fox said. "But Roy going as well and so suddenly, I'll never really get over that." When Roy Powell died, like

Marriott from a heart attack, at the end of December, it brutally severed a bond between him and Fox that went back to their days playing together as 12year-olds for St John Fisher in Dewsbury.

"He was just as big then," recalled Fox. "The biggest, strongest lad you'd ever see. Even then we called him the gentie giant."

Their professional careers initially took them in different directions - Powell to Leeds and Fmx to Featherstone - although they later played together for so it's a real test for us." Bradford, Featherstone and

Rochdale Hornets' player-coach is determined to honour the wish of his right-hand man. By Dave Hadfield

his assistant. "He would have been my

right-hand man and obviously we're going to miss him badly." There was a fear that the

loss of Marriott and Powell, two tragedies in such quick succession, could seriously damage Rochdale's prospects for the new season in the Northern Ford RFL Premiership before it started, but Fox believes that he owes it to his friend not to let that happen. "I didn't know how we would

react on New Year's Day, but we to serious training. went out and played really well against Oldham. It was a mark of how far we've come." They start the league season with a much sterner test on Sunday when they go to Featherstone. a club that went so close to winning promotion to Super League last season.

"It's my old club and Roy's old club, so it's going to be an emotional afternoon all round. They've gained some good players as well as losing some,

With a full off-season - albeit Batley as well as in Test match- one marred by tragedy - to big fellow's up there looking es, before Fox brought his great work on the fitness and organ- after me."

feels that Rochdale are his team, after the damage limitation when he took over midway through last season.

His own craft at scrum-half, alongside the flair of Willie Swann, gives them an immediate advantage over most clubs. He has brought in two experienced forwards in Andy Burgess and David Stephenson and he is tipping Danny Sculthorpe, brother of Great Britain's Paul, for a big season now that he has buckled down

And Fox also has a legacy from Powell. "He wanted to go into coaching and he wrote down everything he heard from all his coaches that he thought he could use. It's a pile of paper about two inches thick and his wife. Helen, passed it on to me last week. He's left me plenty to read."

So Roy Powell is still looking after his little friend, just as he used to on the field.

"They say that everyone has a guardian angel," he said with grin, "and I feel as though the



I feel as though the big fellow's up there looking after me,' says Rochdale's player-coach, Deryck Fox

Andrew Varley

LINGFIELD

1.40 Red Brook Lad 2.10 PAGASONIC (nap) 2.40 Majadou 3.10 Illuminate 3.40 Majors Legacy 4.10 Guido 4.40 Musical Sting (nb)

GOING: Soft (Heavy in pieces).

ILeft-hand, unclusting course.

ILeft-hand, unclusting course.

ILeft-hand, unclusting course.

ILeft-hand, unclusting course. ADMISSION: One enclosure FIO. CAR PARK: Cub 53; remainder free.

ILEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 15-54 (273%), G L Moore 11-46 (239%), N Twiston-Davise 9-39 (231%), D Nicholson 7-9 (365%).

ILEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 15-47 (298%), R Dummoody

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ILEADING JOCKEYS: A P MCCOY 1

1.40 WORTH WOOD SELLING HANDICAP

Minimum: 16st. True weights: On The Cards 9st 12bt. Lily The Filly 9st 8th. BETTING: 9-2 Round Robin, 5-1 Park Royal, Rad Grook Lad, 6-1 inclina-tion, 8-1 Summer Flower, 10-1 Obest Path, 12-1 Boar Bulls, 14-1 offices

FORM VERDICT

Some of these have had quite hard races lately, but SUM-MER FLOWER probably needed har run last week, when well out of the handicap anyway, and looks the one to beat on her previous Towcester effort.

2.10 ASHURST NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,900 added 4YO 2m 3f 110yds

BETTING: 5-4 Pagasonic, 2-1 Lord Of Love, 5-2 Legend Of Love

FORM VERDICT

A bricky race despite the small field. There is little between Lord Of Love and Pegasonic on their letest running at Fortwel, when both handed the testing conditions. Both should run their race again, but slight preference is for LEGEND OF LOVE, who also handles the conditions and may not be easy to peg

BETTING: 1-7 Majudou, 11-2 Rosencrentz, 25-1 Bartholomew Feix, 100-1

FORM VERDICT

3.10 HEDDON NOVICE HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS F) \$2,250 2m 3f 110yds

3-231 DEVONSHIRE (29) (0) Mass V Williams 6 11 10 ... R Dummoody

- 6 declared Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weight: Bronhellow 9et 11lb. BETTING: evens Devoration, 4-1 Bizonines, 5-1 Quoen's Ride, 12-1 Fer-rab's Darling, 14-1 Bronhallow, Chief Predator

FORM VERDICT

It is difficult to know what Devonshire has achieved, and connections are far from convinced that this ground brings out the best in him, it might be worth string with QUEEN'S RIDE, who is virtually guaranteed to improve over this longer trip.

3.40 FELCOURT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,250 added 3m

FORM VERDICT

Majors Legacy looks sure to run another big race and he is much preferred to the doubtful stayer Easthorpe, but shak-ing off RAQIB in the closing stages could be a tail order. Raqib is on the upgrade and his extra geer in the firish can prove

4.10 HOLTYE MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,250 added 2m 110yds

9 KAID (F143) Ms B Warry 4 10 10 _____E Byrne __ 9 declared __ BETTING: 9-4 Harce Fatal, 11-4 Ethn Heights, 3-1 Eto Describe, 5-1 Guido,

FORM VERDICT

A couple of interesting newcomers, but EDAN HEIGHTS has the benefit of public experience and could put his Flet speed to good use in this company.

4.40 HBLB EDENBRIDGE HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS F) £2,900 2m 3f 110yds 32234 TICKERTY'S CEFT (4) (CD BF) G L Moore 9 12 0.M Batchwior (6)

FORM VERDICT

FOUNTAIN BID takes plently of driving but he does stay well and it is reasonable to expect him to improve on last season's good efforts. Musical Sting remains interesting, but he has hed two very hard laces and it remains to be seen whether he have reversed from them.

3.50 NEW BALDERTON SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) \$2,500 added 1m 3f

- 16 declared BETTING: 4-1 SIp Jig. 9-2 Pickens, 8-1 Brockers Line, 7-1 Burnles Own,
8-1 Portile Sophie, 9-1 Joseph'z Wine, 10-1 Castle Ashby Jack, 12-1 Casel,
Hyperico, 1-2-1 others

FORM VERDICT

A good apportunity for PICKENS, who will appreciate this drop in class and will be able to take up a good position early from his favourable draw His main rival on official ratings, Joseph's Wilne, is poorly drawn on the outside and Skip Jig may be a better option for forecast backers.

4.20 MANSFIELD HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 added 1m 4f

um weight 7st 10b. True hendrep weights: Fetshelkheir 7st 6b, No

omoes no nesks ist 30 BETTING: 94 Palata, 54 No Stoes No News, 5-1 List Jacked, 11-2 Powder River, 7-1 Patahatidak, Carol Again, 14-1 Over To You, Summertill Special

Tyson faces return to gaol

MIKE TYSON will today face the prospect of being sent back to prison when he comes up against prosecutors in a Mary-

land courtroom. Already on parole for a 1992 rape conviction in Indiana, the former world heavyweight champion will be sentenced by Montgomery County District judge's leniency. Judge Stephen Johnson on two counts of misdemeanor assault, each of which carries a maxi-

mum penalty of 10 years in

prison and fines of \$2,600 (£1,500). The charges stem from a minor traffic accident last August in Gaithersburg, Maryland, when Tyson's wife, Monica, was shunted in a three car chain-reaction. Tyson allegedly jumped from the car, punched a 62-year-old driver in the jaw and kicked another, 50-year-

old man in the groin. Tyson pleaded no contest to the charges in December and has reached out-of-court financial settlements with both

of his alleged victims. "We are asking for probation with continued counselling, and community service, of which he

has already done 54 hours," Tyson's lawyer, Paul Kemp, said yesterday.

Under Maryland law, incarceration can be a sentence as light as probation, Tyson's lawyers say. But Montgomery County's state attorney, Douglas Gansler, has made it clear he wants a gaol term. "That would not be an inappropriate sentence," Gansler said.

BY ALLEN SIMPSON

Kemp added that the boxer

has been visiting juvenile of-

fenders and terminally ill chil-

dren near his Arizona training

facility in hopes of gaining the

week, however, prosecutors

asked the judge for "executed incarceration," labelling the

volatile 32-year-old a "bully"

and a "ticking time bomb" who

could lose control of his temper

at any time.

In court documents filed last

Anxious to forestall a prison sentence, Tyson supporters hope to have Muhammad Ali on hand for moral support. At least one of the fighter's alleged victims, 62-year-old Abimelec Saucedo, will be there to tell the judge that gaol time is unnec-

Austrian delight

ALEXANDRA MEISSNITZER, Renate Götschl and Michaela Dorfmeister will never be misthey still managed to strike a blow for Girl Power in Beaver

in their super-G on Tuesday.

SKIING

Creek, Colorado, yesterday.

The Austrian trio, led by Meissnitzer, finally put one over on the all-conquering Austrian men, when they swept the medals in the women's super-G at the Alpine World Championships. It marked the first time in 35 years that Austria had filled a podium at a major event, but more importantly it bettered the men's gold-bronze

"This is the first time in a long time that we've done better than the men's team," said Meissnitzer, who finished 0.03

seconds ahead of Gotschl to taken for the Spice Girls but claim her first world medal. "It's a good feeling." Johnny Moulder-Brown, the

20-year-old Londoner, has withdrawn from the championships after damaging a cartilage during a giant slalom event in St Moritz last week. The four members of the

British Land Alpine Ski Team who will be competing in the technical events, Alain Baxter, Ross Green, Emma Carrick-Anderson and Chemmy Alcott. flew to the States yesterday to join their team-mates Andrew Freshwater and Tessa Pirie. who have been competing in

the downhill events. Results, Digest, page 29

SOUTHWELL

1.20 Killarney Jazz 1.50 Le Sauvage 2.20 Rambo Waltzer 2.50 Nathan's Hero 3.20 Tom Tun 3.50 Slip Jig 4.20 Palals

GONG: Standard.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Middle to low best for 5f; low best for 7f. ■ Fibresand surface; left-hand sharp, oval course. ■ Course is 3m SE of town and 5m W of Newark, Rolleston Junction adjoins course, ADMISSION: Club \$12; Tattersalls 85 (CAP members of course's Diamond Club £4, accompanied under-16s

tree). CAR PARK: Free. ■ LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 42-212 (198%), J Eyre 41-292 (14%), S Bowring 40-387 (10.3%), R Holfinsheed 37-385 (96%). E LEADING JOCKEYS: J Quinn 41-473 (8.7%), J Wester 37-217 (17.1%), I, Chernock 34-971 (9.2%), G Duffield 31-234 (19.6%). ■ FAVOURITES: 476-1401 (34%)

LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER: Blue Monk (150) sent 242 miles. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Antarctic Storm, Mercury & Tierra Dai Fuego (all visored, 120).

1.20 LANGFORD APPRENTICES CLAIMING STAKES (F) (DIV I) \$2,750 1m 45434 KBLIARMEY JAZZ (\$) (CD BF) N Litropoins 494 .R Thomas (\$) 8 B

3 30004 EASILLEAN (23) (4) H TURNSTED U 55_186 WASHIN (7) 2
6 000.50 CHALLZ (7) (CD) K Burley 583_____ D Wallians
7 660.00 LIFT BOY (USA) (13) P Burgeyes 10 83_____ D Colory (5) 7
8 0000-0 MERCURY (80) (CD) B Burley 683_____ L Bookey (5) 4 V
9 0000-0 TRESPA DEL FLESO (45) H Colorgraps 5.7 (2, P M Outen 1 V

BETTING: 9-4 Killerney Jezz, 11-4 Cheluz, 9-2 Brandon Hingle, 13-2 Artero tic Storm, 7-1 Eastfelgh, 11-1 Ba Vallant, 14-1 Lift Boy, 53-1 others

FORM VERDICT A weak claimer in which solid recent torm is in short supply, so KILLARNEY JAZZ's latest fourth in a better claimer at Moiverhampton earns him the vota. Citatuz would be a big threat if recepturing a bit more of his old specifie, while Antarotic Storm has sound claims on more recent form.

2.40 ADVENTURE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,250 added 2m

MAJADOU will win this bar a fall. Having won this rece last season with Champieve, who went on to win the Aride, it would seem logical that Martin Pipe has the same plan in mind for this course witner. Resenceants should cheek him home.

1.50 OLD CLIPSTONE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (F) \$2,800 1m 3f

000/ BLUE MONK (482) A Newcombe 4 9 12 _5 Whitworth 14

CHALLAPIN (J46) Bob Jones 4 9 12 N Day 10 D063-2 LE SALVAGE (25) D Burier 4 9 12 T Williams 2

00-6 SAVER SPIDER (11) Mrs S Lamyman 4 9 12_C Tengue (3) 4

COSS- ARTHURS KENGDOM (126) A Javis 385 D Sw

- 14 day

- 14 DECEMBER 9-4 Brends Dec, 100-30 Le Sausage, 7-4 Zaha, 6-1 Aribura Kog-dom, 6-1 Craeli Cell Lady, 12-1 Silver Spider, 20-1 Minty, 33-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Alem Jervis sets e poser as both Arthura Kingdom and Bren-

de Dee are major players on form in this modest event and It will be interesting to see if the market speaks loudly in favour

of one rather than the other. But the vote goes to ZAHA, who

came across a decent sort to be running on the AW when

2.20 LANGFORD APPRENTICES CLAIM-ING STAKES (F) (DIV II) \$2,750 1m

60000 LAKE ARIA (86) JL Eyre 68.4 ________ D Young (7) 3 68400- SAEEEDO (HRS) K Mogon 8.3 ______ P Fizzimons 5 4/004- PORSIER LOVE (JSS) T Donnelly 4.9.1 ____ P Hanagam (7) 9

- 9 declared -BSTTMG: 5-4 Ripenbo Waltzer, 7-2 Burning, 6-1 Awasonge Verture, Fm Tef.

FORM VERDICT

RAMBO WALTZER is a consistent type who can take advertage of a suitable opportunity, and this is a race well writ-

In his grasp. There are some speculative dangers such as

Secondo and Lynton Lad, but on more recent form it has to be Rambo Waltzer.

12-1 Moonreiding, 14-1 Former Love, Lynkon Lad, 25-1 others

14 60000- FLEUR D'OR (130) M Polglese 3 6 0

second to Shogun at Lingfield last month.

cown 3 8 5 ... R Wineton (3) 6

2.50 KELHAM HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3YO 1m

*Oycuseness nat 3*10. BETTINC: 7-2 Rayware Boy, 4-1 Bradby, Pip'a Brave, 9-2 Nistheo's Hero, 7-1 Vole Of Leven, Section Carden, 10-1 Miss Doodybusiness, 12-1 others FORM VERDICT

RAYWARE 80Y did enough when winning over course and distance last time to earn the vote with the birders fitted once agen. Vale 0? Leven, Bamboo Garden and Plo's Brave are other AW winners with sound claims, while Braitby should not be ruled out just bacause his deteat at Lingfield yesterday.

3.20 LADBROKE AW SERIES HANDICAP (FINAL) (B) £14,000 added 6f P005-0 DOUBLE-O (18) (CD) W Jerve 5 10 0. McGaffin (7) 5 B 1-4314 ELTON LEDGER (4) (CD) Mrs N Mecauley 10 9 9 (Se 22226 ELLWAY PRINCE (AN) (D) Min N Microby 4 9 B. D Mickey 4 V B. D Mickey 4 V

43TB THEATRE MAGIC (11) (CD) D Stew 698 N Pollord (3) 14
2342 OCKER (11) (D) (67) Ms N Macadoy 596 R Price 16
0000-0 PREX STAR (18) C Feithust 48 6 C. Lowther 12 V
00-003 REDOLISTABLE (5) (D) (67) D Crapmer 8 9 6... Cultume 15

FORM VERDICT

The craw has been unkind to Ocker, but the front-running John Bowdler Busic is well placed to make a bold bid from stall one. However, the one to best is progressive TOM TUN, who has won four times for today's rider, Tyrone Williams.

FORM VERDICT If he is unable to oblige from a mark 18th lower than he is due to race off from tomorow. There are question marks against most of his rivate, including the former Czeich number President Life is going to be tough for NO SHOES NO NEWS in future most of his rivate, including the former Czech runner Powder River, and Palais looks the most solid alternative to the

- 8 declared -

Politicians object to IOC proposals

THE "CLEAR MESSAGE" which BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM the International Olympic Committee hoped to send out from their World Conference on Doping in Sport became one of confusion and uncertainty yesterday, even though it was confirmed that a \$25m (£15.6m) anti-doping agency would be established in time for the 2000

The IOC received an embarrassingly clear message from attending governments that its final declaration on may even have helped those who sought to cheat. It was not what an organisation struggling to improve an image tarnished by recent scandals over

of his 14 fellow European Union sports ministers, refused to endorse the document in its current form. Banks's objections, which he said were shared by government representatives from the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Norway and others, centred on a loophole left in the sanctions for doping abuse, and the composition of the body which will oversee the new anti-

doping agency.
Although the IOC have adopted a minimum two-year ban for first doping offences, they have left in the possibility of competitors escaping the ban in "exceptional circum-

from the world governing bodies of football and cycling. The beleaguered IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, said the additional clause was necessary because of the risk of legal challenge, and added "it

was very important to keep the unity of all international federations within the Olympic Movement". Banks described the sanctions as "minimalist and permissive", saying the wording undermined the effectiveness of the intended ban. "I see no reason why, in the face of what they might see as

'this is what we're going for' and consult and then test it. "If they are going to say,

problems, the IOC then starts

defeating the purpose," Banks

said. "They really have to say,

this through, therefore we're not going to do it', that is not the way to make legislation. There are those who say this has actually weakened the position on doping." He added that it would be down to governments to establish their own legislation on

doping offences.

"This issue is bigger than the IOC, although it might be a surprise for them to see something larger than themselves," Banks said. "IOC members have been a little stunned by the intervention of governments in this, but they could expect no less. You can't invite government ministers to a conference and expect them to just sit there and appland politely."

The IOC's original proposals over the constitution of the 15strong council to direct the

anti-doping agency have also Olympic family. In defence of the met with firm resistance from wording of the sanction he cited attending ministers, and the assumption that Samaranch would chair the council has been flatly contradicted.

'We weren't happy with havsors and the pharmaceutical industry on the council," Banks said. "And it would be better for the IOC not to be in the chair. This is not a declaration which we accept as being an end. It is a first step.

A working party involving Olympic and government representatives will meet within three months to determine the structure and financing of the

Samaranch insisted that the declaration amounted to a

a hypothetical comparison between an experienced 30-yearold athlete caught doping, and a 15-year-old who might have been "manipulated by his entourage". The 78-year-old president deflected the question of

whether he was willing to accept

that he should not chair the council directing the new antidoping agency. "I'm not saying this now. The person will be a person elected by the council." Rumours persist that Samaranch has had to compromise the changes made to the process of selecting host cities

world publicity. The revolt of 50 IOC mem-

for the Games that were made

moval of their voting rights is believed to have been headed off by an informal agreement that the 15-strong body charged with selecting the site of the 2006 Winter Olympics will only whittle the six contenders down to two. and the rank and file of the IOC will then vote for their choice.

There a similar sense of uncertainty yesterday over the future of the GH2000 project, to which the IOC has contributed \$1m over the last four years. A research team led by Pro-

ssor Peter Sonksen, of St Thomas's Hospital, has arrived at what it believes is a reliable test to determine illegal use of human growth hormone.

But Prince Alexandre de here last month in the glare of Merode, the director of the IOC medical commission, said that "message of hope" for the bers protesting against the re- a further \$5m would be re-

which the method is based would only be carried out for research purposes at the 2000

Olympics. terday that the test could be in place in time for Sydney. "This ation," he said, adding that he remained optimistic after the positive response the IOC to his full report.

The most succinct IOC response of the day came from Senegal's Keba Mbaye, when asked by a reporter whether the phrase "exceptional circumstances" referred to any highly paid professional athlete. "No." Mbaye replied. It remains to be

Nothing grim about Buckley's **Grimsby Town**

After a rough time at The Hawthorns, the Mariners' manager is back among old friends. By Guy Hodgson

rision in visiting football supporters, it is the one saying Buckley was tempted away "Great Grimsby" which greets they put Greater before London

Grimsby Town were in the top at Blundell Park division and it was the 1930s when they came closest to a the semi-finals of the FA Cup. No, the tag "great" does not sit

easily at Blundell Park. Make that "promising", however, and you are nearer the mark, because the way things are progressing Grimsby could make it to the First Division play-offs this season. And in that situation, as Charlton Ath-

letic could testify, who knows? Grimsby have taken 19 out of their last 24 points and are currently just outside the playoff places which, on average home gates of less than 7,000 worse even than those of cashstrapped Oxford United - is littie short of a wonder. Tomorrow they meet Bolton in what should be a litmus test of their promotion credentials.

Alan Buckley, the manager working this minor miracle, does have previous for of. He was successful at Walsall, took Grimsby from the Fourth Division to the Second in his first spell at Blundell Park and, last season, he guided the club to Wembley for the first and second times, winning the Auto Windscreen Shield and promotion via the play-offs in the process.

"If I had come here and been stupid enough to predict what would happen in either spell they would have thought it was a fairytale," Buckley said. "You couldn't have scripted it. It's cuckoo-land stuff."

For a sport that has resided

IF THERE is one sign guaran- too long in cuckoo and karma as Kevin Keegan said once, it teed to provoke mirth and de-land this week, it is a relief the story line is football-related. from Grimsby by West you as you enter the town on Bromwich Albion in 1994, lost the A180. Grimsby? No wonder his powers to amaze at The Hawthorns, and then picked After all, it is 50 years since walked through the doors back

Which wholly confounds the theory you should never return major honour, twice reaching in football. "Who says you shouldn't come back?" Buckley asked, with some vehemence. knows who it is. Ask Graham

> We out-footballed West Brom and afterwards there was a guy asking: "Can you do a piece for ITV?" It's a two-word

Taylor: 'Should you go back?' You look at what's happened to Watford since he returned

answer, isn't it?'

"Grimsby is not how it sounds, grim. Lots of people come here and never want to leave the place. My lads grew up here, my wife loved it, she was very settled, so in a sense it was like coming back home. Obviously I came back for the football but it's a nice place to

Why did he leave then? "At the time it came at the wrong or the right time, depending how you look at it." he replied. "I felt Grimsby and I had gone as far as we could. We were established in the First Division. I could never see us in the Premiership and there was the challenge of a bigger club. But,

His two years at The Hawthorns rankle both with Buckley and supporters, who regard matches between the clubs with almost derby hostility. them up again as soon as he Most of all, it irks him that the legend has gone around that he was a failure there.

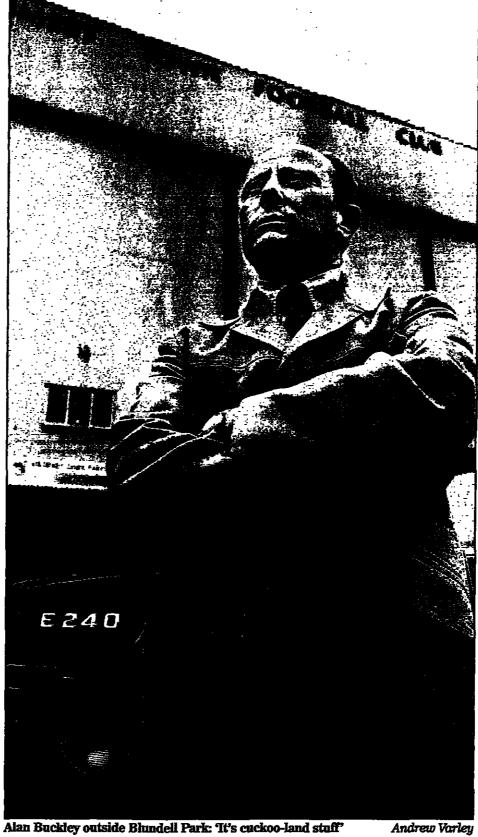
"You read it in programmes when you visit grounds: 'After a horrendous time at West Brom...', but was if? Have a look at the League table in Oc-"Someone has dug that out tober 1994 and see where the from somewhere and no one club were in the First Division. They were on their way down.

> We weren't relegated; in my only full season there we finished 11th, which was their best position for 10 years and even when I was sacked they were 15th. It rankles me that I seem to be considered a walking disaster."

> The West Midlands media which he believes has pedalled the myth, irk even more so and he refused all requests for interviews after Saturday's game at West Brom. "A club loses three games over there and Central TV is in the pub asking supporters what they think of the manager. They were digging for negatives all the time.

> "We out-footballed West Brom on Saturday and there was a guy who came to the dressing room asking: 'Can you do a piece for ITV?' It's a two-word answer, isn't it? I'm not a hypocrite so sooner than have an argument I'd rather keep out of the way. I didn't go into the press room either: why should I give them something to write?

> Ouch. You do not read psychology qualifications to see Buckley is happier at Grimsby, where he has revised his opinions about where the club could go. "I was wrong that first time.



We used to beat Barnsley home but we're harder to beat. That's and away and yet, two years a little unfair to the lads, who later, they were in the Premier- are honest pros who work very ship. So if they could do it, so

could Grimsby. You never know. "I don't think the current 18 months this time while I had Grimsby side play as good,

Whyteleafe seek grand scalp

So far the verdict has been favourable, and should the club eventually reach the Premierhard for the club, but you have ship that verdict will better to understand I have been here still. They say greatness comes to those who wait - and Grimsbeen here six-and-a-half years by have been waiting for a long

Gregory stays at Villa Park insists Ellis

JOHN GREGORY has become BY ALAN NIXON the latest manager to be ruled out as a contender to replace Glenn Hoddle as England coach - although it was by his chairman at Aston Villa, Doug Ellis. Ellis said that Gregory, who

will celebrate 12 months in charge at Villa Park this mouth, has told him he does not want to be considered for the post. "He is committed to us as we are committed to him and hope-

fully he will be our manager for many years to come," Ellis said. Ellis, who sits on the committee that has to appoint a new England coach, added: "Even if they did come, the answer

would be 1,000 times 'No'." The French national coach. Roger Lemerre, unsurprisingly refused to become embroiled in Hoddle's sacking yesterday. Lemerre said personal experience had taught him not to take England lightly, managerless

said, after naming a squad for next Wednesday's game at senal trio, Nicolas Anelka, Em-Vieira, and the Chelsea pair, Franck Lebeouf and Marcel Desailly. "When I played for France against England in 1969, the French national coach had resigned 10 days before the ferent coach and we lost 5-0 so I have been through it as a player. It is difficult but England will always be England and

this wou't change them." The Professional Rhothellers' Association has urged managers to attend its "charm school" to avoid another Glenn Hoddle farce.

"Everybody in the game accepts, like it or not, that the manager's job is a public relations role - be it with television, radio or newspapers," the PFA chief executive Gordon Taylor said. "We are looking to introduce the course to more senior professionals and, as all managers are former players, they would be fully entitled to take advantage of the course as well."

The former England striker

David Hirst has returned to full training at Southampton and could be playing within three weeks, after recovering from the knee injury which has kept him out all season. Hirst has been out of action since damaging knee ligaments when he fell down a pothole during a training run

The Saints are giving a week's trial to a Portuguese defender, Nuno Campos. Their manager Dave Jones watched the 23-year-old play for Campomaiorense last weekend.

Sampdoria have welcomed back Luciano Spalletti as David Platt's replacement just over six weeks after sacking him as coach for poor performances.

Neville Southall, who has been playing for Torquay United, is set to sit on the bench for Huddersfield against Derby County in the FA Cup fifth "I know the reason why it round on 13 February. The 40has happened but I do not want year-old goalkeeper has been Veysey has been injured. Southall, who is goalkeeping Wembley that includes the Ar- coach at Huddersfield on a non-contract basis, will spend manuel Petit and Patrick extra time at the Yorkshire

The Hearts defender David Weir is set to have talks next week over a move to Liverpool. The Scotland centre-half is out of contract at the end of the seagame. We went there with a dif-son and is unlikely to agree a new deal at Tynecastle.

The Huddersfield manager Peter Jackson hopes to sign the Oxford United striker Dean Windass today, Jackson plans to push through a £800,000 move for Windass, also a target for Leicester, with the money from new owner Barry Ruberry.

The Scottish First Division side Raith Rovers should survive the season after management took a voluntary pay-cut yesterday, and the players decided to forfeit win bonuses until the end of the season. FRANCE SOUAD (v England, Wesnis)

3C Changeab 2C Changeab

TODAY'S

FOOTBALL NATIONWIDE

FIRST DIVISION Bristol City v QPR (7.45) ... SECOND DIVISION THIRD DIVISION

N EASTERN LEAGUE Premi RUGBY LEAGUE

CENDLY MATCH: Sheffield v Hu

RUGBY UNION 7.0 unless stated

A INTERNATIONALS: Ireland Av Franc A (5.0) (at Dannybrook, Dublin): Scotlan A v Wales A (at Myreside, Edinburgh) DER-21 INTERNATIONALS: Ireland Linder-21 v France Under-21 (at Musgrav Park, Cork); Scotland Under-21 v Wales Under-21 (6.30) (or Bridgehough, Stirling). SENTATIVE MATCH: Scottish Districts v Crawshays Welsh XV (5.30) (a

BASKETBALL BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Lekester Rider v Birmingham Bullets (8.0); Sheffield Sharks v Chester Jets (7.45).

OTHER SPORTS SQUASH: British Closed Champi BADMENTON: English National Champ

GEOFF CHAPPLE was an ex-NON-LEAGUE NOTEBOOK

pert at the art of FA Cup giantkilling during his time in charge of Woking, but in the FA Umbro Trophy he often finds himself in the reverse position: a manager guarding against an upset.

That is the case tomorrow. when Chapple takes his Kingstonian side to Whyteleafe in the fourth round of the Trophy. The little Surrey club from the First Division of the Ryman League have reached the last 32 of the tournament for the first time in their history, and they are eager to put their name in the head-

Chapple won the Trophy three times in four years with Woking, but he has yet to make an impact in the competition with Kingstonian. Last season, his first with the club, they were knocked out at the first hurdle by Crawley.

The Ks beat the Conference

leaders, Kettering Town, 5-2 in

the last round to reach this

stage, but Chapple is insisting

that his players give Whyteleafe

BY RUPERT METCALF

iust as much respect as the high-flying Northamptonshire club. "It's a potential banana skin for us," he said, "and we must ensure we are in top form on the day.

Chapple's former club, Woking, entertain Rushden & Diamonds in one of two top ties between Nationwide Conference clubs. The other is at Whaddon Road, where Cheltenham Town, the Trophy holders, take on Stevenage Borough.

One of the more experienced sides from outside the Conference left in the Trophy are Ashton United, who are at home to St Albans City. The UniBond League First Division outfit have four players

aged 34 or older. The oldest, the 39-year-old midfielder Stewart Anderson, is also a marathon runner. The Lancashire club's secretary. Division side. Ethnikos Pi-month.

players in training - he's remarkably fit."

Anderson appeared at Wernbley in the 1992 Trophy final for Witton Albion and the 1988 Vase final for Coine Dynamoes. His fellow veterans at Ashton are the goalkeeper John McKenna, the player-manager John Coleman (both 36) and the latter's assistant and fellow striker, Jimmy Bell (34).

Another UniBond club, Lancaster City, lost their too scorer last month when Peter Thomson joined the Dutch side, NAC Breda, for a club-record five-figure fee. After scoring 24 goals for Lancaster this season, he hit two for Breda in a friendly in Spain during the Netherlands' winter break to

Also exchanging the Uni-Bond League for the European stage is Gainsborough Trinity's John Reed. The strik-

Debbie Quaile, said: "He can raeus, where the coach, still outrun all the younger Howard Kendall, was his manager at Sheffield United. The most exotic recent non-

League transfer, though, took Sufyan Ghazghazi from Dorchester Town to the Tunisian club, Club Africain, on loan for the rest of season. The former Exeter City forward, whose father was born in the north African country, will cost the Tunis team around £25,000 if the deal becomes permanent.

Kidderminster Harriers have confirmed Phil Mullen. formerly in charge of Redditch United as their manager, in succession to Graham Allner. Jimmy Conway, who was briefly caretaker manager at Aggborough, reverts to the No 2 role he held under Aliner. Harriers' Conference rivals.

Telford United, have given their caretaker manager, Alan Lewer, the job on a permanent basis. The former VS Rugby manager succeeded Jimmy er has signed for the Greek A Mullen at the Buck's Head last

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criticises

modern

coaches

playing on instinct.

OVER-COACHING has destroyed some of the finest golfers in the world, including Nick Faldo and Ian Baker-Finch, according to Gary Player. The South African, in Sydney for the Greg Norman International, believes that modern day coaches are brainwashing players and removing the art of

These coaches are like dies around these guys," he said. They are on the practice tee. the chipping green, the bunkers, the putting green. Now when the bell rings, man. these guys can't go on. They are saying 'where's my coach'" Player, 63, said he did not agree with coaches travelling constantly with competitors and cited Faldo and Baker-Finch as severe cases of "paralysis-by-analysis." "I see what's happened to Nick Faldo. Here was the world's greatest player. Now the guy can't play at all," he said.

Player



IE INDEPENDENT Irolar & February 1999



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Business

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क्षाय भिष्ये.



The departing seagulls fail to distract Australia's Jarrod Moseley and his caddie in the Greg Norman Holden International in Sydney yesterday

Westwood confessed to feel-

ing rusty as he three-putted the

second and third greens. He

turned with a tally of 37, double-

bogeyed the short 12th, birdied

the next, but then dropped an-

other shot just before the sus-

in-one at the 216-yard second on

his way to a level par 71, but

missed out on a special prize.

A Jaguar car is on offer at the

weight in whisky

Taiwan's Lu Wen-teh holed-

pension.

Storm too near for Westwood

A LITTLE too close for comfort was the verdict of Lee Westwood and Darren Clarke yesterday, as lightning forced the first round of the Benson and Hedges Malaysian Open to be

Their relief at reaching the safety of the clubhouse was nothing compared to that of the Australian television cameraman, Gil Oberhofer. He was on a tower behind the 14th green when he felt an electric shock strike his back. An ambulance was sent for, but Oberhofer

By MARK GARROD in Kuala Lumpur

assured the medical personnel that he felt fine and was suffering no ill-effects.

David Garland, said that it may have been a build-up of static

The tournament director,

rather than an actual strike which Oberhofer experienced. Westwood described it as "ridiculous" that he and 55 other players were still on the course when the decision to an outward 40, he had fought his moment that the lightning storm became a real factor - by suspend play was taken late in the afternoon. We were on the 15th tee,

which is just about the most exposed and open spot on the whole course, and we then heard that somebody had been struck just below us," he said. "That was very close," added Clarke, who was playing in the

match immediately behind. Another relieved player was John Bickerton, who has twice been struck by lightning during his career. After two sevens in

way back to level par and was device on the clubhouse roof on his final hole when play was registered a strike within a called off and he could take

Spectators were killed by strikes at a US Open and a US PGA championship earlier this decade and Lee Trevino is among other players to have been hit in the past.

director for the Asian Tour - holes jointly running the event with the European tour - said hooters were sounded the

five to 10-mile radius. Westwood and Clarke, both

of the season, will resume their rounds at 8am today with a lot of ground to make up. Westwood, the world No 6, is three-over-par with four to play

Valen Tan, the tournament and Clarke two-over after 13 The lead was established early in the day - before the

humidity which preceded the

the American Christian Pena and China's Zhang Lian-wei, both of whom had six-under-par rounds of 66.

making their first appearances Peña and Zhang are one ahead of the Filipino Frankie Minoza and another American based on the Asian Tour, Gerry Norquist. He still has the parfive 18th to complete.

The leading British player is David Howell, at three-under with two to go. Westwood's new brother-in-law, Andrew Coltart,

"When he makes a cut I'm astounded. "You know how good lan

Baker-Finch was. This is one of the saddest things I ever saw in golf. This guy was one of the top 20 best players in the world. The guy can't play at all. I mean they go from champion golfer to rank bad golfer." Until recently Faido was

coached by David Leadbetter, whom he credited with helping him win six majors, but Faldo has dipped dramatically in the world rankings, failing to win on the US tour in two years. Baker-Finch, the 1991 Open

champion, no longer plays tournament golf after a disastrous slump in form. "They get over-coached,"

said Player, who has never had a regular coach and won nine majors, including three Opens and three US Masters.

"The players are being brainwashed. It's not just hitting a golf ball that wins a tournament. That's only 10 per cent of it. You have to trust your own instinct."

SPORTING DIGEST

confirmed that the inquiry lato the Doug Walker doping allegations will be dealt with through a private committee. In a press statement is-sued yesterday. UK Athletics said: "It has been agreed between the British Athletic Federation and UK Athletics that UK Athletics will assume responsibility for handling all procedures relating to the adverse findings in the sample of Doug Walker."

BASKETBALL

Rod Strickland has agreed to a four-year, \$40m (£24.5m) contract with the Washington Wizards. The point guard will be avallable for their Na-tional Basketball Association open-EUROLEAGUE Second preliminary round: Group F: Eres Pilsen (Tur) 83 Varese (It) 72. Group H: Villeurbanne (Fr) 69 Zadar (Croa) 61.

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS; Bud-welser League; Marchester Giarus 87 Ed-inburgh Rocks 65: Tharnes Valley Tigers 94 Derby Storm 79; Worthing Bears 81

BOWLS

Jonathan Forey continued his remarkable run in his home town of Lanelli yesterday when he moved through to the semi-finals of the Welsh Masters. Forey won the Welsh title on Tuesday to earn a place in the Masters and then beat the world champion, Alex Marshall, on Wednesday, Yesterday he beat John Price, the defending champion, 7-5 7-6.

BOXING

Wayne McCullough from Belfast will make a second consecutive world title challenge against the Mexican, Erik Morales, for the World Boxing Council super-bantamweight title on 8 May in Las Vegas. Mc-cullough said: "We have already greed to the fight and we are waiting for them to finalise their part."

TODAY'S NUMBER

105

The number of years since a captain of Cambridge University RU teain was sent off. Angus Innes was dismissed for throwing a punch against Newcastle on Wednesday, while in 1894, Justin Davies

was sent off for fighting.

Match & (Jackpot)

Match 5 plus bonus ball

Match 4 Match 3

Francisco de la companya del companya del companya de la companya

after he was offered a new six-year contract. Tony Pigott, the club's chief executive, said: "It's not just the club that wants to sign him up, he is very keen as well. We have made him an offer and it's up to him to come

Mark Taylor, the recently retired Australian Test capitain, made an Inauspicious return to Sheffield Shield auspicious return to sherned shield action yesterday, making just nine runs for New South Wales against Queensland. His dismissal triggered a collapse by the NSW batsmen as they were all out for 106 on the first day of their four-day game. In re-ply Queensland also struggled, clos-ing the day on 159 for 7.

ing tre day on 139 for 7.

SHEPFIELD SHIELD (First day of four) Bristhanae New South Wales 106:
Queensland 159 for 7. Adelaide: Victoria 214 (M T G Elliott 54, B Hodge 54; J Gillespie 4-42), South Australia 25 for 1.
Hobart: Western Australia 259 for 5 (S Katich 118) v Tasmania.

Alan Maybury, Leeds' 20-year-old Re-public of Ireland international de-fender, has joined the Scottish Premier League club Dunfermine on loan until the end of the season. Luc Borrelli, the Lyons reserve goal-keeper, has been killed in a car ac-cident. Borrelli, who was 33, crashed into the back of a lorry on the highinto the back of a forty off the ingri-way from Paris to Lyons on Wednes-day. His car caught fire and he was unable to escape. Marseilles-born Borrelli joined Lyon from Second Di-vision Caen last year. He previously played for Paris St. Germain and Toulon, with whom he made his First Division debut in October 1986. Division debut in October 1986. ENGLAND UNDER-21 SOLIAD (In-cernational w France, Pride Park, Ibesday): Ball (Everton). Barry (Aston Villa), Beatsle (Southampton). Bowyer (Leeds). Bridges (Sunderland), Brown (Man Utd). Cadamarter (Everton). Carragher (Liverpoo). Cresswell (York). Carragher (Liverpoo). Cresswell (York). Carragher (Liverpoo). Cresswell (York). Carragher (Liverpoo). Geasswell (York). Carragher (Capt) (West Ham). L Marshall (Norwith). Migarts (Cheisca). Bladins (Crystal Palace). Roblinson (Leeds). Simonsen (Everton). Upson (Arsenal). Weaver (Man City). Williams (Sunderland). PORTUGAL SQUAD (Friendly V Division debut in October 1986.

(Man City), Williams (Sunderland).
PORTUGAL SOLIAD (Friendly V.
Netherlands, February 10): Goallosopers: Ferreira (Sporting), Baia (Porto). Defenders: Litos (Bowista).
Secretario (Porto), Santos (Porto), Taiseira (Fenerbahce), Couto (Lazio).
Madelra (Benica), Severe (Sporting).
Midfielders: Figo (Barcelons), Rai Costa (Fiorendia), Croselcao (Lazio), Bento (Oriedo), Lasi (Benica), Formantis
Pauleta (Deportho Corune), Sa Pinto
(Real Sociedad), Jose Pinto (Benica),
Gomes (Benica). INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLIES: Venezuela 0 Argentina 2 (Samuel 46, Gal-lardo 68): Guatemala 0 Ecuador 0.

iardo 56): Guarental o Ethado V.

Diffich CUP Third round: Utrecht 1
Feyenourd 2: Eindhoven 2 FC Groningen
1; FC Zwolle 5 Go Ahead Eagles 2: Twente
Erschede 2 Fortuna Sitzard 5: PSV Eindhoven 2 Az Alimanar 0; Vitesse Arnhem 4
NAC Breda 0; Emmen 2 Cambuur
Leeuwanden 0. SPANISM CUP Foorth round, Second leg: Departivo Coruna 1 Ceita Vigo 1 (aet: Departivo win 2-1 on agg): Valenda 1 Lev-ante 0 (Valencia win 4-0 on agg).

NO. OF WINNERS

548 26,892

514,696

WEDNESDAY'S LOTTERY UPDATE. Draw date: 03/02/99. The winning numbers: 3, 16, 18, 24, 39, 47. Sonus number: 17. Total Sales: £28,769,564. Prize Fund: £12,946,349 (45% of ticket sales).

Maybe, just maybe. 🐮 THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

SCOTTISH THIRD DIVISION: POSTponed: Ross County v Brechin (Wednes-day, 10 February).

ag; 10 reorusy).
RE-ARRAINGED FUCTURES: Tempents
Scotzish Cup Third-round replays:
Monday 8 February: Ross County v
Cydebank (7:45); Tieseday 9 February:
Dundee Utd v Queen's Park (7:45).

Clydebank (7:45); Treesday 9 February: Dundee Urd v Queer's Park (7:45).

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: FA CUP Foesth-round replays: Chelsea 4 Cotord Urd 2: Huddersfield 2 Wrecham 1. FA Carling Premierside: Man Urd 1 Derby 0. Temments Scottish Cap Third round: Clydebank 1 Ross County 1. FA Umbro Trophy Takrd-round replay: Raunds Totem 0 Weston-super-Mare 1. Representative Match: Combined Services XI 1 Ryman League XI 4. Ryman League Second Division: Harlow Town 1 Windsor & Eton 1. Unificated League Cap Takrd-round replay: Gatshead 0 Farsley Celtic 1. Dr Martens League Cap Second Division: Harlow Town 1 Windsor & Eton 1. Unificated Cap Takrd-round replay: Gatshead 0 Farsley Celtic 1. Dr Martens League Cap Second round: Pustponed: Raing Cub Warwick v Sutton Coldfield Town. Unifiet Sussex County League First Division: Eastbourne Town 0 Languey Sports 1: Selsey 1 Horsham VMCA 1. Screenfix Direct League Premier Division: Chippenham Town 1 Brisington 0, Lea Phillips Cup Takrd round: Veovil Town 1 Brislaport 1 (oet; Yeovil win 2-1 on pens). Jewson Wessex League Cap Charten Charles (1) Honorphila 2 Christchurch 2. Poestins league Premier Divisions Houtingham 1 Manchesser (1) 11 1 East Divisions Remiers 1 Geims. Premier Division: Notingham Forest 2
Aston Villa 0: Burningham 1 Manchester
Utd 1. First Division: Barnsley 1 Grimsby 0: Middlesbrough 2 West Bromwich 2.
Sacond Division: Sreffield Utd 0 Sweysbury 0: Scarborough 0 News by 0; Modresson 19, 2 west promising 2; Sacced Divisions: Sheffield Use 10 Shreesbury 0; Scarborough 0 Newcastle 3; Blackpool York 1. Talard Divisions: Rochdale 0 Scanthorpe 0; Chester 0 Bury 3; Chesterfield 2 Darlington 1; Harclepool 1 Walsall 1. Awon hostarance Combinacion Farst Divisions: Gillingham 2 Brentford 3; Wycombe 0 Fulham 9; Millwall 1 Ipswich 4; Brighton 1 Tottenham 2; Cambridge 3 Arsenal 3; Watchtan 3; Cambridge 3; Valladolid 2 Espanyol 2 (org; 4-d); Valladolid 2 (org; 4-d); Valladolid 2 Espanyol 2 (org; 4-d); Valladolid 2 (org; 4-d); Valladoli

GOLF MALAYSIAN OPEN (Kusia Lumpur) Leading completed first-round scores iptry obandoned because of lightning; 56 players still to complete their first round; 66 C Pena (US); Zhang Lian-wei (Ch), 67 GS C Pena (US); Zhang Lian-wei (Ch), GT F Minoza (Phil), 68 Chol Hyoung-lu (S Kor). T Munoz (Sp), 70 A Hansen (Den), C Hain-line (US), C Chernock (US) A Ceika (Ger). A Coltart (GB), A Bonhomme (Aus), 21 G Owen (GB), G Morales (Ven), J Smith (US), 72 P Marksaeng (Thai), Lu Wen-teh (SaM), Z Moé (Myanmar), B May (LS), Kyl Ha Han (Myanmar), 73 M Anglert (Swe), J Lomas (GB), K Jong-duk (S Kor), D Terblarche (SA), P Fulke (Swe), R Brobio (Phil), C Wulliams (GB), V Phillips (GB), R Munitz (Neth), M Ramayah (Malay), B An-drews (Aus), Gwang-soo Chol (S Kor), GBt D Howell -3 after 16. D Clarke +2 af-ter 13. L Westwod +3 after 14.

ter 13, L WESTWOO +3 STEET 14.
GREG NORMAN HOLDEN UNTERNA-TIONAL (Sydney) Leading first round scores (Aus unless stated): 66 A Painter. 67 P Senior, M Campbell (NZ). 68 B King, J Mossley, 89 D Smail (NZ). K El-

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£1.473

(France), K Yokoo (Japan), S Gardiner, Selected: 77 G Norman,
TOUR'S DUMENSION DATA PRO-AM
(Sun City, SA) Leading first round (Sun City, SA) Leading first round scores: (SA maless stated): 63 E Canonica (It). 65 W Abery. 66 S Dunlap (US), D Gammon. 67 D Crawford (Sco). N Price (Zim), S van Vuuren. 68 F Quinn Inr (US), H Otto, R Wessels. 69 M du Tolt. B Lincoln, L Chitengwa (Zim), D Fichardt. inr (US), H Otto, R Wesses, ee m ou ioic. B Lincoln, L Chitergawa (Zim), D Fichardt, J Hobday, B Prytz, 70 G Thalin, U van den Berg, B Davison, M Cayeux (Zim), B Pap-pas, C Davison, T Johnstone, K Horne, D van Staden, B Vaughan, A Roestoff, B Lid-dle, 5 Ludgater, P Friedlander, D Botes, C Whitelaw, R Whittaker (US), I Ficafol,

ICE HOCKEY

NML: Colorado 5 Buffalo 3; New Jersey 4 Carolina 1; Montreal 2 Vancouver 1; Washington 10 Tampa Bay 1; Detroit 5 New York Islanders 1; Florida 5 Toronto 2; Ottawa 2 Edmonton 2; Anaheim 3 Chicago 0. SDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Sale da Superleague: London Krights 3 Not-tingham Parithers 2; Shelfield Steelers 6 Manchester Storm 5 (or).

RUGBY LEAGUE

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULT FRIENDLY MATCH: Halifax 16 Wigan 18. RUGBY UNION

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE First Di-vision: Merthyr 18 Tondu 18. CLUB MATCH: Cambridge University 30 NewCastle 32.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Vall, Colorado) Women's Super-G: 1 A Melssnitzer (Aut) Imin 20,53sec; 2 R Gotschi (Aut) 1:20,56; 3 M Dorfmesser (Aut) 1:20,74; 4 H Gerg (Ger) 1:20,83; 5 M Eril (Ger) 1:20,98; 6 I Nosmer (ht) 1:21,21; 7 5 Berchod (Swic) 1:21,34; 8 C Rey Bellet (Swit) 1:21,46; 9 P Wiberg (Swe) 1:21,58; 10 F Masnada (Fr) 1:21,55; GB; 33 T Pu'e 1:23,95.

BRITISH MATIONAL CHAMPIC (Northern Clab, Manchester ERETISM WALFORMAL CHARMFORESHETS (Northern Chio, Manchester) Men's Brast round: J Welling (Sussed) bt D Har-ris (Essex) 14-17 2-6 ret; J White (Sco) bt L Drew (Essex) 12-15 9-15 15-9 15-3 15-6: P Hargrave (Derby) bt D Ryan (Irl) 7-15 10-15 15-12 15-12 15-11; P Johnson (Kent) ot C Leach (Warks) 15-10 15-5 15-9.

TORRY PAN PACIFIC OPEN (Bilaye) Second round: I Novotna (Cz Rep) bt M de Swardt (SA) 6-2 6-2; A Coetzer (SA) bt E Callens (Bel) 2-6 6-1 7-5; L Daven-port (US) bt M Joe Fernandez (US) 6-4 6-4; A Kournikova (Rus) bt C Black (Zim) 6-2 6-3; S Graf (Ger) bt E Likhovissaa (Rus) 4-6 7-6 6-2; N Zvereva (Bela) bt L Ray-mond (US) 6-3 6-2.

ATP MARSEELES OPEN Men's singles ALP MANCHELLES OFFEN NEWS SERVICES (F) 4-6 6-4 6-fc R Federer (Swirt) bt J Goldmard (Fr) 4-6 6-4 6-fc R Federer (Swirt) bt J Goldmard (Fr) 6-7 6-7 6-7 5 E Santono (Fr) bt A Di Pasquel (Fr) 6-1 6-3: M Rosset (Swirt) bt K Carlsen (Den) 6-3 6-2.

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VILLEPREUX KING OF FRANCE P23 • BUCKLING DOWN AT GRIMSBY P28

Gullit takes his outlay to £15m

RUUD GULLIT took his spending to £15m in five months yesterday as he signed Croatia's BY NICK HARRIS influential World Cup midfielder, Silvio Maric, for £3.3m.

The 24-year-old Croatia Zagreb player is due to fly to Tyneside today to undergo a medical and complete the deal - a three-and-a-half year contract worth £20,000 per week, according to reports in Croatia.

The move is dependent on Maric receiving a work permit, but both clubs are confident that there will be no hitches. The deal includes a seli-on clause and the promise of a friendly between the two sides later this year.

Maric is Gullit's third major signing since taking over at St James's Park last August. The former Chelsea manager, who made it clear from the start that he would be looking to bring in new players, signed Duncan Ferguson for £7m from Everton and then Didier Domi from Paris St-Germain for £4.5m. Maric's signing indicates that Gullit is happy to keep looking abroad for new players - as he did at Stamford Bridge - even though this might not bode well for some established players at Newcastle.

Maric's arrival might cast doubt over the future of the club

No.3838 Friday 5 February

Black bird - it's needed

A good deal of sugges-tion associated with un-

titillating sphere of

10 Having a great success hijacking the RSC truck? (8.3,4)

Mode of transport suit-

able for disabled city

12 Crowd were given infor-

mation in speech (4)

though not a Swiss lake (7)

American volume?

15 Nothing found in

Hang about (6) 17 Bill, in soft hat, is

chief executive (4-5)

entertainment (8)

for a pie? (4)

The England international has not started a game since the 3-0 home defeat by Leeds on Boxing Day after suffering a troublesome Achilles injury. He has been linked with moves to his former club, Charlton, as well as West Ham and Southampton, and yesterday's signing will have done nothing to make him feel more secure in the north-east.

Damir Vrbanovic said yesterday: "We have finished negotiations today and Silvio Maric will be a Newcastle player.

"He will join Newcastle tomorrow for a medical examination and for other formalities. We will wait until the work permit is issued by the UK and then sign the contract on the conditions which were agreed today."

Zagreb agreed the transfer reluctantly after Maric, who played four times in the World Cup as Croatia reached the semi-finals, took advantage of a clause in his contract which right offer came along. "We

THE FRIDAY CROSSWORD

pressing hints of 7 thoughtless laughter (7) 8

bringing down the wrath of the RSPCA? (4,2,5,1,3) 16 Team and staff going

Girl left University more

than once (4)

21 Shock about cut in pay award evaluation (9)

Plenty of scope for

round a back way (4-4)

DOWN

Vulgar dance seen in

American sport (8) Question bringing in

print (7)
5 Fruit associated with

English grain (5) Line 1: alter stupid mis-

26 Tax the French (very

heartless) (4)

didn't want to lose him," admitted Vrbanovic. "We really

We're not happy, we're defplayers in the Croatian league."

ing his club's two-leg Euro-

We have been watching Sil-

Another player who is likely to remain in the Newcastle squad a while longer is John Barnes, who returned to the club after a brief trial at Charlton. A permanent move has not been ruled out but the Chariton manager, Alan Curbishley, has yet to decide whether to make a bid for the 35-year-old, saying that he would be watching a few allowed him to move if the matches this weekend before making a decision.

Tim Sherwood finally completed his move to Tottenham from Blackburn vesterday, in a four-year deal for a fee believed to be around £3m. He is likely to go straight into the squad for tomorrow's home game against Coventry.

Sherwood, 30, is ineligible to play for Spurs in the Worthington Cup semi-finals, having turned out for Blackburn in the competition earlier this season, but is available for the London team's FA Cup campaign, which reaches the fifth round stage against their manager George Graham's old chrb. Leeds United, at Elland Road a week tomorrow.

Graham said: "Tm delighted to get a quality player who will be a tremendous asset to the club. I believe he will form a great partnership in the middle of the park with Allan Nielsen and my other recent signing, Steffen Freund."

Bolton's Arnar Gunnlaugsson will join Leicester City in a £2.5m deal today after requesting a transfer because of a contract dispute. The Icelandic striker is expected to accept terms and sign for Martin O'Neill's team in time to be eligible to face Sheffield Wednesday tomorrow.

Gregory ruled out, page 28

Goram back for **Scotland**

BY SIMON BUCKLAND

cepted the invitation of the Scotland manager, Craig Brown, to reverse his decision to retire from international football, as Brown denied there had ever been a fall-out between the two. The 34-year-old goalkeeper

now playing for Motherwell, walked out of Scotland's training camp in the United States three weeks before last summer's World Cup, declaring he would never play international football again. However, after impressing Brown since signing for Motherwell a month ago, Goram accepted the chance to rejoin the international fold.

The decision to revive his Scotland career signals a sudden change of heart from Goram, who had only recently ruled out such a move.

"There was never any acrimony on my part because I accepted his reasons for leaving us when he was in America.' Brown said. "It was always the case that if he felt differently then I would reconsider him, and when I spoke to him I put the matter to him again."

Goram looks certain to be recalled for the Euro 2000 qualifying double-header when the Scots meet Bosnia on 27 March and the Czech Republic four days later, both at home. Wimbledon's Neil Sullivan is likely to remain first-choice keeper. RUGBY UNION

By Chris Hewett

game as a new Five Nations'

Championship draws near and

in the rumpus that led to him being manhandled by a mem-

rugby's a game of physical

Colour Print, St Albans Road, Warford

they nearly always play one, too. But Paddy Johns, the cold-eyed contact," he grinned before disappearing for a bite to eat. Ulsterman who captains this season's emerald vintage, Still, there was an unmisbrought a whole new dimension takeable air of aggressive intent to the pre-match psychological about the Irish as they worked battle with the French yesterthemselves up for a second day by appearing at a Dublin emotion-charged Lansdowne press conference with his eyes Road occasion in the space of already blackened. As a stateseven days. "Ulster's success in ment of intent, it spoke volumes. Johns was quick to deny

the European Cup last weekend has raised huge expectations that the damage had been the length and breadth of the country," affirmed Donal Lenicaused in an over-enthusiastic training session, explaining han, the national team manager that the rearrangement of his who played in the second row delicate features had occurred when his country last put one during the pitched Tetley's Bitover the Tricolores in 1983. ter Cup battle between Saracens and Lydney in the Forest of Dean last Sunday. He was not at all keen to discuss his part

"It is essential that we perform to the maximum of our ability and, to do that against a French side embarking on their quest for a triple Grand Slam, we must be prepared to ber of the crowd, as well as half taken them on up front. We the Lydney pack. "To be sure, must be ready for a very hard, physical encounter."

It will certainly be that, especially as the bull of Agen, Philippe Benetton, is now in the visitors' starting line-up tomorrow. The powerful blindside flanker was promoted when Marc Lievremont limped out of training with a strained thigh. Marc Raynaud takes

Benetton's place on the bench. Worryingly for the Irish, Emile Ntamack has not withdrawn. The knee he damaged while putting Italy to the sword in Genoa last weekend is said to be serviceable. "He's the big danger to us." said Warren Gatland, the Irish coach.

"If you relax for a moment and give a flair player like Ntamack some space, he'll score from anywhere," added Leni-

Scotland finally revealed their injury-riddled hand for tomorrow's opener with Wales at Murrayfield. Shorn of Jamie Mayer, their muscular young outside centre, the selectors have asked Gregor Townsend to fill the bole.

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rator and he has played a good deal of rugby in the No 13 shirt," said Jim Telfer, the Scottish coach. "He can beat a man in a one-on-one situation; he can probably do that better than Jamie, actually."

Michel Lipchitz/AP

Jamie is more capable of breaking tackles, of running through people. Still, we can play in a variety of styles and we feel Gregor gives us a good many options in his current position."

The New Zealand-born Leslie brothers, John and Martin, make their Five Nations debuts at inside centre and open-side flanker respectively. Gary Armstrong leads the side from scrum-half in the absence of the injured Bryan Redpath and Tom Smith, a central figure in Scottish plans, is fit to anchor the scrum at loose-head prop. SCOTLAND (* Wales, Five National Championship, Minray Baid, tomorrowly Conseptonians): C. Bietcalfe (Gissgow Caledonians): C.



captain Rob Lee, who has been the subject of intense speculation in recent weeks.

Zagreb's executive director

didn't want to sell him.

initely not happy. Silvio Maric is absolutely one of the best Maric - who impressed dur-

pean Champions' League qualifier defeat by Newcastle ast season – is a strong running attacking player. He is likely to be given a creative role in midfield to create chances for Ferguson and Alan Shearer, whose partnership has yet to produce much evidence that it will be as devastating as touted.

vio Maric for three years," the Newcastle director Freddy Shepherd said yesterday. "We are very happy today to be here to sign him because he will be a valuable member of the squad."

palace developed by e.g. nobleman and heir (8,6)

banter about brass-play-

It's instrumental in rock

Switching parts, to trick

the new arrivals (6)

I'll do chie that's mis-leading for stuff in film (9)

Showing great devotion, disguising Tory sleaze (boundless) (8)

longer connected to

19 Match with pretty girl going round front of pitch (3-3)

Capital in South Ameri-

ca, in more ways than

Greek god uncovers,

taking off top (4)

Umpleasant and nasty

er missing note (9) Blue feathers (4)

formation (8,6)

18 Source of water no

one (5)

France's Olivier Brouzet in training for tomorrow's game against Ireland

Ireland ready for the battle IRISH FORWARDS traditionally like to talk an ultra-physical

and the property of THE BEST 4X4XFAR



FRIDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION



Dish of the day

They said it wouldn't fly. But what did they know, says the man who launched it. Sky TV is 10 years old today

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III INDIPINITAL

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A Brand - Marie · (本集集的) 持续公司等的目的 Minima well Wich . Al M. Miller III Janes Martin att 12. erent, ed. nggreger (Traff nag bie Chaff)

الشروب المساوي

his shirt. Most relished the prospect. bringing multi-channel choice to British TV when Pupert asked me to become executive chairman of Sky to oversee its launch, because I believed the viewer would be better served if the BBC/TTV duopoly were broken. Established broadcasters and media pundits thought we were on a profligate mission impossible. multi-channel cable TV had taken off in America was because terrestrial reception was so bad. They regred, with typical establishment complacency, L the quality and variety of programmes on the xisting British channels was so superb that nobody would be prepared to pay for extra channels, esbecially in a country where people already had to tump up for the compulsory licence fee. They prelicted that, with Murdoch behind it, Sky would equal trash TV". Their arguments look risible today. At

he phone rang as I arrived home at which made the Sky launch, already a daunting task given its unpreparedness (the place was a shambles when I arrived two months prior to its debut), all the more difficult.

Michael Grade and the other panjandrums of BBC and ITV sneered at the very thought of satellite TV Maggie Brown, then this newspaper's media correspondent, was always solicitous on the phone, but never failed to stick in the knife in print. Even the estimable Ray Snoddy, the doyen of media reporters, opined that we were trying to do too much too outckly and likely to fail. I came to regard media iournalists as lower than crime reporters: they were regularly less reliable.

Given this hostile climate, Rupert and I decided on a low-key launch. It had been a mad rush and we were not sure it would all work on the day. Even as guests turned up at Sky's headquarters (a grand title for three sheds in a muddy field in an industrial estate in west London) for the final countdown, workers were still painting, fixing wires and installing equipment. Some facilities were not ready and we had to hire trucks with the necessary editing and broadcasting equipment and hide them round the back of the buildings.

It was a wet, grey day and we had to lay down wooden boards to carry our guests over the mud -they were hardly grand enough to merit a red carpet the political and broadcasting establishment had decided to shun the Sky launch. John Birt, then deputy director general of the BBC, was the honourable exception: he turned up to wish us well. The Labour Party boycotted the event.

The only senior Tory to attend was Norman Tebbit and he was on the payroll (as co-presenter, along with Austin Mitchell, of the political debate show Toroet).

A few minutes before 6pm on 5 February 1989. Rupert and I stood on a platform in front of a collection of News International employees, a handful of well-wishers, and a posse of carping press praying for failure. I got rather carried away and egan a New Year-style countdown; everybody joined in. As the last few seconds ticked away, I caught Rupert's eye. There was fear in both our faces: if nothing happened we were about to be destroyed by the whole non-Murdoch media.

But at precisely 6pm all four channels - Sky One. Sky News, Sky Movies and Eurosport - illuminated the terminals around us with clear bright pic-

tures and strong sound. "Welcome to the first day of the rest of your lives," said John O'Loan, the taciturn Aussie who headed the news operation, to his people in the Sky News gallery. It had taken Britain 60 years to get four national channels; we had doubled that number in under six months. A

new era in British broadcasting had begun. It was long after I had returned full time to The Sunday Times - and only after the spilling of much red ink - before Sky was perceived to be a success. Today it has over 6 million subscribers (almost 30 per cent of the UK's television-owning homes, which is close to US levels of penetration at the equivalent stage in multi-channel TV) and generates annual revenues of £1.4bn, making it the most

profitable satellite TV service in the world. It has become a success by revolutionising the coverage of sport on TV, controlling the pay-TV rights to almost all of Hollywood's movie output and offering a choice and variety of channels - news, cartoons, documentaries, entertainment, history, wildlife – unimaginable 10 years ago. To the best

BY ANDREW NEIL

public-service TV in the world has been grafted the widest choice of channels outside America. Both types of TV are flourishing (I always argued that Sky was an addition to established TV, not a replacement for it). The British viewer has never been better served.

So much for what the critics said a decade ago. They remain amazingly reluctant to admit just how wrong they were. In a churlish piece in London's Evening Standard on Wednesday, Jon Snow of Channel 4 News sneered that "Sky actually made very little of its content beyond the sport". Strange for a newsman to ignore the substantial output of Sky News, which broadcasts round the clock and is 90 per cent home-made.

Snow concedes that Sky News is "good, if safe" (now there's faint praise for you) but says that few ever watch it. As presenter of Channel 4 News, which has fewer viewers than any other terrestrial newscast, he should know about small audiences. But it is in the very nature of the 24-hour news channel that its audience at any one time is small; the weekly reach is in millions as people dip in and out,

of the media and other decision-takers) is greater

than the small ratings suggest. For years British broadcasters talked about the need for a "third force" in broadcast news to supplement the BBC and ITN. Channels 4 and 5 have failed to provide it – they took the cheap way out by using ITN - while GMTV (like TV-AM before it) does not have the news resources to be taken seriously. Sky News is that elusive third force, a reliable, respectable addition to the broadcasting firmament which has taught the BBC and ITN a thing or two about covering breaking news. I am proud to have been involved in its start-up (and those in the BBC who enjoyed chuckling at its rough edges in the early days should tell us why, almost a decade after Sky News had shown them how to do it, they made such a hash of the launch of their own News 24 last year).

"Instead of breaking brave new television ground," continues Snow, Murdoch has been going round "breaking old sports grounds". I appreciate that the traditionalists have always had an affection for grimy terraces. But even allowing for the liberal left's nostalgia for the cloth cap, this is a bizarre way to describe the entirely beneficial effect on football of Sky money, which has transformed slum grounds into proper all-seater stadia and turned the English Premier division into the most prosperous in the world.

But Snow is right to attack Sky's failure to make its mark in British-produced soaps, sitcoms and dramas. This was the issue over which I fell out with Murdoch back in 1990, when I left Sky. I urged him to begin investing in original British programming for Sky One. A channel scheduled solely on US imports, no matter how good (and some are very good), will never be a huge ratings success, I argued. But Murdoch has nothing but contempt for British drama and comedy, and refused to invest in it.

Elisabeth Murdoch is now supposedly putting that right, but so far the results have not been encouraging. Home-made shows like Ibiza Uncovered. could have been designed to prove the "trash TV" critics right all along. They belong more on late-Friday-night Channel 4 than on a TV service dedicated to popular, quality programming. But, like Home Box Office before it in America, Sky is getting into original film production, which is good news for the British film industry. If Sky One is ever to

and its influence (because it is watched by the rest rival ITV or BBC1, it has no alternative but to make more British programmes.

The same voices who predicted that Sky would be a spectacular failure are now saying it will fall flat on its face as it goes digital. Certainly, Sky will never again enjoy the competitive advantage it had from having the balls to be first in the marketplace. Its expensive drive to digitise its existing subscribers and attract many more will cut profits from a peak of over £300m to under half of that this year.

Those not noted for their financial nous have interpreted this as a clear sign that Sky is going to the dogs. In fact, all it means is that, once again, Murdoch is prepared to forgo short-term profits for the sake of long-term investment that is designed to reap huge future profits. British commentators are forever attacking the short-term horizons of British business; when Murdoch takes an appropriately long-term position, he is derided for it. How easily Murdoch discombobulates the brainless.

Though I have been persona non grata with Murdoch for four years and have no need to tout his case. my money is on Sky winning the digital race. Its main rival, ONdigital, may not be the expensive corporate lemon that BSB turned out to be when it took on Sky in the early days and lost; Gerry Robinson of Granada and Michael Green of Carlton, chairmen of ONdigital's major shareholders, are far more formidable businessmen than the numpties who ran BSB. But like BSB's before it, ONdigital's launch has been bedevilled by delays, technical problems and low take-up rates. As Sky powers past its initial targets for digital sign-ups, the presence of its rival in the marketplace is barely visible.

Henceforth Sky's strategy will be to increase penetration rather than maximise profits. The aim is to reach 10 million homes early in the next decade. which means the cost of subscribing will be capped or even cut. This will be costly, but the potential gains are enormous. To dominate the digital pay-TV market in over 50 per cent of British homes would turn Sky into an even bigger cash cow than it has been so far. Given their record for calling it wrongly, those who say Murdoch cannot succeed provide the most convincing reason for thinking that he can – and will

Andrew Neil is editor-in-chief of 'The Scotsman' and 'Sunday Business'. He was executive chairman of Sky from 1988 to 1990

around 11pm after another long,

gruelling Saturday at The Sunday

Times. It was Rupert Murdoch call-

ing from New York. He was eager

to know if the Astra satellite, due to

be launched that night by a Euro-

pean Ariane rocket from French Guiana and from

whose transponders Sky TV was to beam four new

channels to Britain, had made it into orbit. The

launch had already been postponed 24 hours be-

cause of bad weather and technical problems. He

called back again an hour later. There was still

nothing for me to report. He sounded uncharac-

Even when, a few hours later on that December

"You sound a bit nervous," I said tentatively.

Andrew," he replied quietly, "Tm betting the

+ night in 1988, the rocket carried Astra to its park-

'r' 'r'''' I reported the good news, "I'm going to pour my-

ing space in geostationary orbit, 22,300 miles above

Earth ("Thank God," said a relieved Rupert when

self a large drink"), and early test transmissions

revealed perfect sound and vision, the conventional

wisdom among the wise and the worthy in Britain's

media village was that Murdoch was going to lose

I had jumped at the chance to play my part in

They claimed, incorrectly, that the only reason

he time, they created a poisonous atmosphere

I told him I expected to hear at any moment. He

sounded worried.

whole company on this."

teristically jittery.

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Design: Arts. :11 Listings Radio & Satellite TV Today's TV

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Hoddle's offence

Sir: Wanted: new England manager The successful applicant will have experience of manipulating the media, a perfect family life and no questionable friendships. He will not be involved in any potentially embarrassing financial or business dealines. A knowledge of football is desirable but not essential. Hindus, Buddhists or anyone with any religious beliefs to speak of need not apply.
PETER TROW Fareham, Hampshire

Sir: I am very worried that a vengeful media, sanctimonious MPs and a spineless FA are able to suppress anyone's right to free speech. The Government and the press and television are the traditional guardians of our freedoms. I do not trust them with my freedom any longer.

What has happened to Glenn Hoddle could happen to any one of us if we do not toe the "correct" · line. May our gods help us all. MARGARET ALTON Epworth, Humberside

Sir: Mr Hoddle's views on the disabled are indefensible, but he is entitled to express them, even if the Prime Minister disagrees. Moreover, he will have a right to do so under the new Human Rights

The Prime Minister's support for his dismissal comes perilously close to governmental interference with the right to free speech. It is one thing for the rest of us to preach at Mr Hoddle, but quite another for those in power to do so when a man's livelihood is at stake. Professor A E BOYLE Edinburgh

Sir. Glenn Hoddle has been forced to resign because of his religious views on the causes of disability. Tony Blair spoke in favour of the resignation because of the "offence" caused to disabled people. I am a full-time wheelchair user and I find Mr Blair's contribution by far the more offensive.

In opposition he voted three times to allow abortion up to the moment of birth for babies with congenital disabilities such as mine. Apparently in Blairland one must not speak ill of the disabled, but one may kill them with ALISON DAVIS

Blandford Forum, Dorset

Sir: Glenn Hoddle's expression of unorthodox religious beliefs has been defended on the grounds of religious toleration. The British tradition of toleration owes its origins to the philosophical arguments of John Locke. Locke argues that we can never be sure that any religious view is false and so it is wrong to restrict a person's

However, Locke circumscribes the right to religious toleration. Firstly, he limits toleration in cases where the expression of a religious belief is likely to be harmful or offensive to the commonwealth. It is for this reason that Locke withholds toleration from atheists and Catholics. Secondly, he argues that religious beliefs must stem from an individual's genuine concern with their spiritual wellbeing and a detailed consideration of the evidence available. All our religious beliefs must pass the test of reason. On these grounds Locke attacks the claims of "enthusiasts" who claim direct knowledge of God's divine will or sacrifice their judgement to the opinions of prophets or seers

It seems to me that Mr Hoddle's comments fall foul of both the conditions Locke sets. As to the first, his comments were offensive to an important section of society. As to the second, it is possible that Hoddle's religious convictions stem from a genuine attempt to engage his rational faculties in the consideration of the nature and scope of faith. It seems far more likely, however, that Hoddle's views, characterised by a smorgasbord approach to faith, the dubious influence of Mrs Drewery, and an emphasis upon the power of spirituality over

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Independent Eye No 5: A policeman joins in the 1978 Notting Hill Carnival. From 'An Independent Eye: A Century of Photographs (Sutton, £20) Hulton Getty

reason, are closer to Locke's "enthusiasts". ROBERT DAVIES School of Philosophy University of Leeds

Sir: Apparently some people think that Glenn Hoddle is entitled to his opinions and should not have been made to pay for comments made in public, but judged on the

performance of the England team. I wonder whether he would have been sacked last weekend if his comments had been racist or sexist. Of course he would have, and rightly so; yet the FA waited four days to make a decision. Discrimination against the disabled is seen as OK as long as you keep it to yourself. Disabled rights groups have a long way to go in this country before we catch up with Europe, and are lightyears behind the US.

He was sacked because of poor performance on the pitch and his comments gave his enemies an opportunity to get rid of him. NICK PHILLIPS Solihull, West Midlands

Sir: Despite suggestions that Glenn Hoddle has been denied the right of free speech and has been pilloried for his religious beliefs, the truth is that when he combines the two he has an uncanny knack of making crass, insensitive remarks that offend people. He was bound to drop the "big one" sooner or later. N.P. HARDING

Sir: The saddest part of the Hoddle affair is that the persons most responsible for causing offence to the disabled have got away without any criticism. I refer to the Times journalist and his editor. If what Glen Hoddle said was likely to cause offence, it was only when those views were blazoned across The Times that the offence was caused. JOHN CHARMAN London SW1

Sir: How would the tabloid press react if the prime minister of a Hindu or Buddhist country appeared on television to

encourage the sacking of his national football manager because he had expressed a belief in the Resurrection or the notion of Heaven and Hell? I fear it would be Tornados at dawn. CHARLIE McCORMICK Geddington, Northamptonshire

Sir. Is the Oxford English Dictionary about to acquire a new

Hoddle, v. t. To sack or hound out of office for an error of judgement or personal peccadillo unrelated to that office.

(The word "hoddle" being more euphonious than (say) "Mandelson", "Robinson" "Whelan", "Davies" or "Spencer"; the latest batch to be hoddled or endure hoddlement.) **FARQUHARSON COUSINS** Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex

Sir: Virtually six pages devoted to Glenn Hoddle on 3 February. Bring back news of the Royal Family! JULIAN JACOBS Wokingham, Berkshire

Criminal Cromwell

Sir: Antonia Fraser ("Heads, you win", 3 February) refers to Oliver Cromwell leading "military expeditions" against the Irish.

What that truly evil individual did is called genocide. Just read his own accounts of how he burnt

Sir: If John Andrews' report is

correct that only one third of

the meaning of "gross" and "net" interest ("An early start

on the financial facts of life", 3

government show an appalling

abdication of responsibility by

even contemplating holding a

Sir: There is at least one self-

interested reason why we should all subsidise child-

February), does not any.

ELIZABETH PIDSLEY

Lymington, Hampshire

the population understands

alive "near 1,000" Irish (the population of Ireland is estimated at 500,000) who had taken refuge in and around St Peter's Church, Drogheda. He even managed to ship thousands of Irish into slavery in the Caribbean.

Will British people ever have the honesty to call a spade a spade when it comes to their state's role in Ireland? The fact that that butcher is honoured in British society in 1999 shows how utterly oblivious most British people are to the misery their imperialism has caused in Ireland. It is akin to German people honouring Hitler for his economic wonders of the

FINNEN Ó CUINN-DE TIÚIT Cuige Laighean, Ireland

Sir: Thomas McFadden (letter, 29 January) fails to grasp the situation in Northern Ireland. when he differentiates between Sinn Fein and the IRA, the latter being "not a signatory to the agreement". The IRA and Sinn Fein are two sides of the same republican coin: Sinn Fein provides the public relations veneer to the IRA terror campaign whilst the IRA provides the threat of force needed to lend weight to

Sinn Fein's political argument. To Sinn Fein/IRA, the Good Friday agreement has presented carte blanche to tighten their grip on their communities through

IN BRIEF

rearing (letter, 3 February). Even the childless rely on other people's children to give

a return on their investments

and pay their pensions in later

life. However wealthy some of

them may be, the over-60s are

Sir: Every year there is a story

their address to get their child

about parents who lie about

DAVID WARD

Caldbeck, Cumbria

intimidation and brutality whilst at the same time providing ministerial positions in the Northern Ireland executive. Why must the Government feel bound to preserve the "peace process" at all costs when British citizens in Ulster cannot rely on the

Government to enforce the rule of ANDREW ARCHER London NW1

Spreading wealth

Sir. The Trade and Industry Secretary, Stephen Byers, suggests that wealth creation is more important than wealth redistribution, as if the two objectives were incompatible ("We are wealth creators now, says Labour", 2 February).

In reality, redistribution assists the creation of new wealth. It increases the power of poor people to spend (creating income and employment for others) and to save and invest. It helps them to rise in society and make fuller use of their natural ability, and ensures that society's rulers and managers are recruited from a wider spectrum of talent.

Finally, a more equal society can hope for long-term savings in public spending on the many social problems which are created or aggravated by inequality,

especially in health, housing. into a sought-after school. While serving as a governor of

a popular Church of Eugland infants school I was involved in introducing a very simple and foolproof method of determining where a child lived. Parents offered a place had to produce their child benefit book (or the related document if the benefit was paid into a bank account). This eliminated all the ruses described in Jack O'Sullivan's article (3 February). JOANNA FRENCH London SE21

employment, welfare dependency

and law and order.

London SW9

RICHARD HELLER

Sir: Professor Reich's assertion that "the global economy is rapidly approaching overcapacity" when a fifth of the world's population does not have enough to eat is an economic obscenity (The Global

Crisis, 1 February). Lack of demand in the world economy could be cured by paying people in the poorest countries more for their work. Our inflation is low and shops overstocked because so many people are paid less than £5 a day to produce the goods. But instead of paying more, the Western financial system forces the poor to cut wages (by devaluing) and to pay interest to the rich for unrepayable debts. TITUS ALEXANDER London E17

Breast is still best

Sir: It is misleading to imply that "enriched" formula milk may be as good as breast-feeding ("Brain food for babies", 2 February). There is no research to suggest this.

Professor Lucas's research merely shows that one kind of formula milk is even more inadequate for brain development than another kind. Manufacturers will never be able to duplicate breast milk because it is a live substance that changes constantly to match the baby's age and needs, and responds to each infection mother and baby are exposed to by providing antibodies specific to

that particular infection. The Independent's pro-bottlefeeding bias presumably stems from the idea that bottle-feeding liberates women. Bottle feeding only liberates employers and the state from the burden of providing decent maternity leave and workplace creches, and relieves others of the "inconvenience" of welcoming babies wherever their mothers wish to go. IMOGEN COOPER Pitsford, Northamptonshire

Creature comforts

Sir: I connot believe that Terenes Blacker would have written of the Chipperfield case in so frivologs a manner if he had watched the video depicting "training" techniques ("Our phoney sentiments for

animals" 2 February). On what authority does Mr Blacker assert that "animallovers" are "indifferent to the depredation of the countryside through intensive farming and the ever accelerating decline of

mammal, bird and insect species Most people who object to the exploitation of animals for profit and amusement share a broadly inclusive sympathy for nature.

It is to be repretted that you should encourage one of your staff to mock their viewpoint. ALAN CLARK MP House of Commons, London SW7

Sir: I'm inclined to become a vegetarian after reading your article "Assault and battery"

(Review, 27 January). On my father's poultry farm in the 1920s our hens had runs which were always green places for them to have dust baths. There were ben cabins, litter on the floor, perches with dropping boards below cleaned out daily. They had nest

boxes lined with straw. We killed our birds by hand father called it "wringing their necks" and it was instantaneous. The birds were hung for a short time and then plucked by hand. The birds were dressed by hand and, having been hung, it was not a

"bloody" job. My father refused to convert to the battery system, which could have resulted in him becoming a

wealthy man. The argument that cages provide sanctuary is ridiculous. A weaker bird could be attacked by others but it was noticed and dealt with. I never saw a bird minus

feathers or suffering from arthritis. The old system would provide more jobs, of course, making eggs more expensive but maybe it would be a good thing if they became a luxury. MARY HOBSON Bieldside. Scotland

Timor: what ethics?

Sir: So Jakarta is offering the possibility of full independence to East Timor ("Timor is offered 'freedom' at last", 28 January). Is this believable when behind the scenes it is arming and inciting pro-integrationist militias and conducting a war in cyberspace to delete East Timor as a virtualreality sovereign state from our computer screens ("The day East Timor was deleted". 29 January)?

Perhaps the Indonesian embassy spokesman in London was closer to the mark when he asserted that "the handover of the [Internet] domain to East Timor is beyond imagination, since the government of East Timor will not exist".

What then of Britain's role? Even as Indonesia's Supreme Deliberative Assembly prepares to meet in Jakarta next August to consider East Timor's future, the delivery of 16 British Aerospace Hawk 200-series multi-role combat jets will be commencing. Three will be flown out a month at the cost to the British taxpayer of £42m for each delivery. Meanwhile, in the "Timor Gap" between East Timor and Australia, British companies will continue to participate in the exploitation of a resource potentially the 25th largest oil and liquid natural gas field in the world -which by rights belongs to the East Timorese people.

What sort of message is all of this sending to Jakarta? That arms and oil are more important to us than the welfare of the Timorese? Some ethical foreign policy this. Dr PETER CAREY Trinity College, Oxford

Blackboard jumble

Sir: What is the point of the maths test for teachers (report, 4 February)? We already know that a career in teaching doesn't add up. PHILIP D DELNON Swanscombe, Kent

The problem with saying nice things about the BBC

THEY'VE HAD quite a good idea on called him, Jonathan Rabin... Radio 4 this week. At 9.45 every morning, they have dug up a column or essay from a halfremembered American writer, or American-based writer, and got someone to read it out. That's it. Five different American essays, just

simply read out. One was on the flu epidemic of 1919, and it was very good, too. The one two mornings ago was all about going fishing in the northwest mountains of the USA, and trying to catch steelhead salmon. I find it hard to get interested in fishing but I really enjoyed this piece, especially as it was full of such nice ideas as: "the ripples spread outwards in the water, like a hub cap sinking." Nice image. The piece was written by Jonathan

A touchy reader writes: Dear Mr Kinaton. Ah ha! I see what you're up to! Is this going to be one of those articles of yours where you store up a few misprints in the Radio Times' and then use them as a basis for saying that the BBC is notten to the core

Certainly not. I was going to say some nice things about the BBC, as a matter of fact. A suspicious reader writes: Is

this some kind of a trick? Not at all. I only wanted to say how much I had enjoyed seeing a return to something as old-fashioned as a radio talk. Some of the best radio ever has been provided by one man reading out a script. Dylan Thomas did it now and then. Rene Cutforth did it often. James Raban, or, as the Radio Times Cameron did it, too. But nobody

seems to do it any more. Except Alistair Cooke

A mistrustful reader writes: I hope you've spelt THAT name corwell, it's the way they spell it in the Rodio Times. Of course, that

doesn't mean it's correct, does it? A terse reader writes. Yeah, yeah. Get on with it. I just wanted to say that there have been some very good things on BBC radio recently. Did you

catch a thing before Christmas called Kailyard Blues? A startled reader writes: Who.

No. What was it about? It was a serial about a travelling jazz band in Scotland, who have just welcomed their accordionist, Homesick Ferguson, played by Bill



KINGTON

I liked the piece by Jonathan Raban, or, as the 'Radio Times called him, Rabin

Paterson, back from prison, where he's been inside on a drugs charge. Another member of the band is a Scottish nationalist terrorist. It was very funny, quite dark, mostly Sounds weird to me. Who was it by?

A poet called Don Paterson. Is that spelt correctly? They've got POETS writing sit-

coms now? Well, apparently the Edinburgh producer Dave Batchelor saw a one -page poem about a drunken jazz accordionist by Mr Paterson and liked it so much that he thought it would make a six-part drama serial. So he talked him into it.

How do you know all this? Research. Gossip. Listening at doors and windows.

Hmm... Look, I've got a poem I've written somewhere. Do you think if I sent it to Mr Batchelor ...? Right... Do they actually have jazz accordionists in Scotland? Sure. They even have jazz bag-

You're joking! Name one... Hamish Moore. Who's he?

He's a jazz bagpiper named Hamish Moore, From Dunkeld, I see. Right...

In fact, jazz has done pretty well out of the BBC recently. The weekday 11.30 slot on Radio 3 called Jazz Notes has become a damned good programme, with the newly appointed Alan Shipton in the chair. They've also got a wonderful history of jazz going out in 52 weekly parts, called Jozz Century, written and narrated by Russell Davies, who is one of those broadcasters who sounds very

wise and yet down-to-earth, a bit like James Cameron and Rene Cutforth ... I thought you said there wasn't

any of that stuff on BBC radio any Well, not much. Wasn't Russell Davies recently dropped from the Radio 4 pro-

gramme about films, Talking Pic-Yes.

Why? I don't know. Maybe he's too good for Radio 4.

Ook - now we're getting overbic again! I thought you were going to be nice about the BBC? Well, I was being nice about

Then let's stop before we get nasty again, shall we?

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A simple rule for politicians - keep out of private lives

WILLIAM HAGUE is a puzzling phenomenon: impressively fluent; obviously bright; nearly brilliant; never quite right. What on earth, for example, possessed him to walk into precisely the same logical trap into which Tony Blair had fallen only a few months before? When the Government published its Green Paper on the family last year, the Prime Minister tied himself in knots on the issue of marriage. The document described marriage as the "best" way to bring up children, while insisting that being unmarried was not worse. Mr Blair, trying to explain this contradiction, said this did not mean "penalising people who choose not to, it means supporting those who choose to marry". So, marriage is best - apart from any other arrangement - and the Government will not "penalise" people who choose to live together, just refuse to help them. No wonder he is now quiet on the subject.

And yet, despite this object lesson in failing to reconcile the irreconcilable, Mr Hague gave an interview and made a speech yesterday in which he failed to do exactly the same. Marriage should be encouraged by the tax and benefit system because it is the ideal, he said. Not that he was judging people "who find fulfilment in many other sorts of relationships". Despite Sir Norman Fowler's praise for his masterful talents (see page 4), Mr Hague managed to go even further and deeper into the trap than Mr Blair. The Conservative leader suggested that marriage was the answer to a whole range of social ills - indeed, that it might be an engine of prosperity. "Our society has found something which lowers the crime rate, increases people's chances of finding work, improves their education, and contributes to their happiness and wellbeing," he said.

This is a fallacy of cause and effect, and shows only that to focus on an official ceremony is to miss all the important factors that make a difference between strong families and weak ones, social cohesion and social breakdown, prosperity and deprivation.

This was the message of Blair Mark One, who declared that if a lone parent had deliberately chosen to have children without forming a stable relationship: "I disagree with what they have done." That caused a fuss at the time, impressing Tory Middle England and offending traditional liberals. But it was much more defensible than the contortions of Blair Mark Two: what mattered to the Early Blair was the "stable relationship", not marriage.

That is the point: what matters is stability, responsibility and the welfare of children. Which is, in fact, what most of the Government's White Paper was about; quite rightly, state interference in the family should be to support children, not to support marriage. When the reactionaries to whom Mr Hague's "listening party" has bent is beyond that limit.



its ear bemoan the number of children "born out of wedlock", they do not pause to ask about the qualities of the relationships into which such children are born. Nor do they ask whether a financial incentive to marriage would improve the quality of these relationships.

Sadly, Mr Hague was not asked the questions that would have teased out the illogicality of his position. If marriage in itself promotes stable relationships, is he in favour of gay marriages - especially given that one of the arguments that are favoured by Tories against giving equal rights to homosexuals is that gay men tend to be promiscuous and predatory?

The fact is that politicians should stay out of people's personal lives. Mr Blair should have stuck with Blair Mark One, and Mr Hague should have kept to his excellent theme of the week - that there is a limit to the number of things that politicians should poke their noses into. The issue of marriage, like Glenn Hoddle's religious beliefs,

Never mind the ratings, iust feel the quality

BROADCASTERS LIKE their rituals as much as any High-Church Anglican. The quarterly radio ratings figures, published yesterday, are the occasion of one of the most meaningless. The instant analysis is always the same, with minor variations. Should James Boyle stay or go as boss of Radio 4? Is Zoé Ball or Chris Evans up or down?

But whether ratings are going up or down, strange to say does not tell us much about the health of the stations, or of radio in general. What matters is choice and quality, and on these issues the statistics are silent. It may be too much to expect Mr Evans to put quality before profit. But for Mr Boyle, controller of a public-service channel, chasing ratings is folly. He encouraged the ritual by saying he would go if audience figures dropped. He should have recorders, trumpets and violins.

said that he would go if his programmes were no good. Never mind ratings, his job should be on the line for giving us the execrable "comedy" produced by Punt and Dennis. Healthy competition means Radio 4's ratings are bound to fall over time: we should celebrate the widening of choice, not worry about the decline of civilisation as we know it.

A small fanfare

A FANFARE please - on the synthesiser, of course - for David Blunkett. The Government has begun to turn the corner in remedying the deplorable neglect of music teaching over the past decade. Funding for school music is being doubled, and a survey published today suggests a small increase in the proportion of children learning an instrument. Those instruments are more likely to be electric guitars, electronic keyboards or even computers. But that is all to the good: creativity should not be limited to

Don't underestimate Mr Trimble, the man who will disarm the IRA

IF YOU had predicted five, let alone on the planned Northern Ireland Exten, years ago that the leader of the ecutive with Sinn Fein, to which pow-Ulster Unionist Party would write to Amnesty International urging them to visit Northern Ireland, you would have been mad. By doing just that this week, David Trimble has shown, not for the first time, that he is a politician who is unwilling to be imprisoned by his party's history.

Amnesty has long had a place in the demonology of Ulster Unionism. Its reports on the methods used by the police and Army in fighting terrorism in the last 20 years were frequently written off as, at best, naïve, or, at worst, crypto-nationalist propaganda Trimble's exhortation to Amnesty

to investigate punishment beatings by

both republican and loyalist paramilitaries is easy to dismiss as a tactic, which it partly is, to expose the continuing lawlessness of the IRA in period of ceasefire. In fact, it is a rather potent symbol of something bigger. Conventional mainland liberal wisdom - of the kind that embraces agencies such as Amnesty without hesitation - has tended, equally without hesitation, to see Ulster Unionism as the problem rather than part of the solution in Northern Ireland. It is time to review some of those assumptions, just as it is time to review the question of who is doing most to undermine human rights on the streets of Derry and Belfast.

From a distance, of course, it looks as though Trimble is up to Unionism's old tricks, making impossibilist demands on a republican leadership for a handover of arms it cannot deliver some of them may have hoped. He will, it is now certain, refuse to sit

ers are due to be transferred in six weeks' time, unless decommissioning of arms begins before then. He is threatening to "park" the peace process and to seek the review provided for in the Good Friday agreement for such an outcome. Is this not just the same old politics of "no surrender" once again? Not necessarily.

The Dublin government, for one, has not yet joined the public clamour for Trimble to back down, a point made in a recent eloquent Irish Times editorial, which asserted that "he has shown remarkable flexibility and openness as to how and when the IRA might show its commitment to exclusively political methods" and that "there has been no reciprocation on the part of Sinn Fein or the IRA". At considerable political risk to himself, Trimble has come a long way since the

beginning of the peace process. Some of those who understand the Provisional IRA much better than I do, believe that the Republicans have misread Trimble, thinking that he would go the way of all his predecessors and say no at a much earlier point to the peace process, and that he would never be able to withstand the pressure within his own ranks to pull out, leaving nationalism alone occupying the moral high ground. If so, they were wrong on both counts. Trimble took risks to stay in the talks. He is still there, and the moral authority is no longer cleaving quite as securely to the republicans as

On one reading, the future may not



DONALD MACINTYRE

By contacting Amnesty, the Unionist leader shows that he won't be imprisoned by his party's history

be quite as desperately bleak as it looks. Under one of several possible scenarios, the deadlock would continue until the deadline of 10 March.

The "parking" of the process would then be followed by several days of frenetic activity in Washington over the St Patrick's Day period in which President Clinton, and perhaps the SDLP, would bring irresistible pressure on the republicans to decommission sufficient armaments to satisfy Trimble that he can honourably allow the new executive to assume its powers.

This process has some historical precedent. Rather as de Valera formally, and against all his instincts, swore allegiance to the British crown in 1927 so that his republican Fianna Fail party could take its seats in the Irish Parliament and take power, so Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness an acceptable price for political to change with them.

will finally lift the taboo on handing progress. That does not appear to over IRA arms in order to sit at the Cabinet table. There are even those who believe that the republican leadership may slowly be coming to realise that this may be the outcome. and that the brutal murder of the ex-IRA man Eamon Collins in Newry last month was part of a grisly IRAsanctioned deck-clearing operation to discourage others who may, once a settlement is reached, be tempted to follow Collins's example by lifting the lid on some of its murky history over

the past 20 years. That may be too optimistic. The IRA may not agree even to the mini-mum decommissioning required to allow the process, now in its moment of maximum danger, to advance; the next few weeks will be among the most decisive for Northern Ireland's future.

But, whatever the outcome, it no longer looks anything like as easy to write Trimble off as the obstacle to a long-term settlement in Northern Ireland. If the IRA refuses to decommission, while the British Government bends over backwards, not least by controversial prisoner releases, to keep the process alive, then it is becoming increasingly clear that Trimble may still emerge the more open-minded, even pluralist, politician. His approach to Amnesty International and to Human Rights Watch in New York about the punishment beatings, is a small but significant

There are those who succumb to the temptation of thinking that somehow the punishment squads are

illustration of that

have been the view of Maureen Kearney, a lifelong republican and the 65-year-old mother of Andrew Kearney, who bled to death after being shot in the legs in the aftermath of an argument over a game of cards with a prominent IRA man. Mrs Kearney confronted the man who ordered the shooting, and reportedly sent the bill to Sinn Fein for her son's funeral.

But that is not the only point. The approach to Amnesty was made rather swiftly after a Sunday newspaper editorial made the suggestion; Harry Barnes, the Labour MP whose New Dialogue organisation has shown a commendable open-mindedness towards all sections of opinion in Northern Ireland, has worked with the non-sectarian Families Against Intimidation and Terror in Belfast since 1991. He has long talked of a "human rights emergency" in the province, and got up an Early Day Motion on the subject. Trimble, inde-

pendently, made the decisive overture. It is a reminder, of course, that it is no longer an imperialist British Government which stands in the way of human rights in Northern Ireland. But it is also, equally significantly, another modest sign that beneath the · often rebarbative exterior of Northern Ireland's First Minister there is an imaginative politician willing, if he is allowed, to break out of the straitjacket of his party's die-hard and dogmatic culture. The old certainties are slowly changing in Northern Ireland; fashionable perceptions in the mainland, not least on the left, need

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Unless we can contain and defuse the ethnic hatreds in the Balkans they will embroil us in a much larger conflict." Bill Clinton,

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time." Abraham Lincoln. 19th century US president

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should act as a solemn reminder to those who see this issue solely through the prism of safeguarding abortion rights. In the past, the same arguments in favor of restricting that -we can't have people who free speech were used to try to quell black civil rights. Maintaining perspective is hard, helpless among us for a living.

THE JURY said that the website was "threatening" - that it might drive somebody to kill! would actually want to harm somebody who kills the most

MONITOR

ALIAOW THY 40 EWEN SHY LLA

The American press considers the huge fine levied on an anti-abortion website

The fact is, Christians and and certainly not for a living. other conscionable people who USA Journal recognize abortion for the horror it is do not now, nor do THANKS TO a judge's instruc-

ening if construed as such by a and behavior that incites to 'reasonable person", the jury violence? We have supported would for the plaintiffs. The rights that many might regard \
Supreme Court, browever, pre- as leading to amonying acts, vivously robed that to be comid- such as the right of paperassi.

ered a timest, speech must be 'to get their photographs. But likely to cause "muniment law- the defendants went well be less action". By lowering the youd the reasonable. The decis as ton nees bloudd be seen not as a standard, it has been made much easier for courts to restrict speech they find offensive.

blueprint for stifling the free expression of ideas, but rather as a warning to those who Delaware County Daily would wrap threats in the cloth

they ever, advocate killing a tion to the jury that the site WHERE LIES the distinction of the First Amendment. human being for the sake of it should be considered threat- between forceful free speech Los Angeles Times



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PANDORA

ANOTHER EFFORT by Tony Blair to appeal direct to the people. February's edition of Saga, the magazine for older people, has a front cover dominated by a picture of the actress Lynsey De Paul. Directly underneath her ample décolletage is the slogan: "Tony Blair - My message for Saga readers." Blair's message included telling readers that: "Many of our best businesses are increasingly realising that they get rid of their experienced workers at their

peril. There is no substitute for that experience and skill and there is a real danger of losing the collective memories of their companies."

Pandora called the veteran MP Tony Benn, who said: "The Prime Minister might remember Old Labour. We have been told the past is relevant, and yet anyone who goes on about it is a

BE WARNED when booking private rooms at Marco Pierre White's stunning London restaurant. Mirabelle. The rooms often used by MPs and power-brokers – are filmed by hidden cameras.

When Pandora called White's PR, Alan Crompton-Batt, he said that he had not heard about the cameras but would call to check. Since then, and despite various calls, Mr Crompton-Batt seems to have vanished. Perhaps he has been spending the past two days watching videos.

DESPITE CRIPPLINGLY poor reviews of You'll Have Had Your Hole when it opened at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds, there was no shortage of celebrity names turning up on Wednesday night to see the Scottish writer Irvine Welsh's controversial new play in London's West End.

Following the performance there was a party at London's | Reid, Elton John's extrendy new Balinese nightclub, China White, attended by Sir Bob Geldof, Harry Enfield and Elisabeth Murdoch. among others. Pandora was invited to the Noel Gallagher's house, Supernova Heights, where his wife, Meg Matthews (pictured), kept revellers, including the all-giri band All Saints and DJ

WHAT DO MPs do when the rigours of parliamentary procedare get too much? Write limericks. That's what three London Labour

busy until six in

the morning.

MPs were spotted doing in a recent session of the standing committee for the Greater London Authority Bill. Linda Perham (Ilford North), Eileen Gordon (Romford) and Steve Pound (Ealing North) were seen passing a paper between them on which the words "Lady from Epping", "flirt" and "skirt" were inscribed.

Stephen Pound MP explained that the limericks had a dual use: "They are a kind of meditation technique to survive the first four-and-a-half hours of the Liberal Democrats' input on the committee. They also serve as mnemonics to help us remember the clauses of

the Bill."

of bidders."

PROFITS ARE already being made out of the Lib Dem leadership race. Mark Oaten, Liberal Democrat MP for Winchester, has come up with a cunning wheeze to raise funds for his local party: "T've got about eight dinner engagements in the next couple of months that I'm going to auction among my parliamentary colleagues. Given that many of my colleagues are anxious to get themselves seen, I am sure that there will be no shortage

THOSE TAKING out a new subscription to the New Statesman will be pleased to see the special offer of 50 per cent off the magazine plus a free book: *Mandy*: The Unauthorised Biography of Peter Mandelson, by Paul Routledge, who has just been signed up as a columnist for the left-wing weekly. Next week look out for New Statesman's owner Geoffrey Robinson's stunning offer of a lowinterest-rate mortgage.

LOOKING FOR a "unique" home? Do you have the odd £5m to spend? If so John manager, is selling his

> London home complete with tiger-skin carpets and an extra mews house. The property appears across two colour pages of the Country Life magazine. Late last year, the welder's son from Paisley cleared out the contents of his homes in London. New York and St Tropez in a two-day

> auction at Christie's, which netted him £2m. Reid discovered Elton in 1970 when the latter was a £10-a-week singersongwriter. Reid went on to make £30m from the partnership. Hardly what you'd call negative equity.

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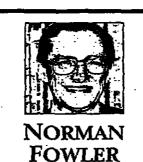
The long, hard slog of opposition

THURSDAY, 8 JANUARY: Holf o column in the Telegraph', an interview for Today and a few para-graphs in the rest. The party always complains that the Shadow Cabinet does not get enough coverage – but it is inevitable in opposition. The press are not as interested in the views of politicians without power – and rightly so. Government affects everyone opposition is normally just an expression of view."

That was my introspective lament on the fate of a press campaign. I recorded it in a political diary I kept – not last month, but in January 1976. I was then a member of the shadow cabinet not of William Hague, but of Margaret Thatcher.

Our appointment a year earlier had not exactly been welcomed by the press. The leader writers regretted the passing of the old guard such as Robert Carr and Peter Walker and none too politely asked about the credentials of Fowler.

Younger and Oppenheim. Magisterially, The Times pro-nounced that the new shadow Industry Secretary was simply "not of the same weight" as Tony Benn, the minister he shadowed. And who was this insignificant political player?



Rather than excluding the old guard, we should bring back some members of the last government

Michael Heseltine. Margaret Thatcher had a turbulent time. She was too middle class, too right wing, too inexperienced. Who had ever heard of a woman being prime minister of this country?

There is a revealing piece in Ted Heath's autobiography which recalls that as late November 1978 most of the public thought that Heath rather than Thatcher would make the best Conservative prime minister.

take longer to make. Thus anyone with a glimmer of

understanding of post-war political history will understand that opposition is never an easy time. It was not easy for Margaret Thatcher. It was not easy for Ted Heath before his victory in 1970. It was not easy for Winston Churchill before the 1950 election. Nor can anyone seriously claim that in general it has been any better for Labour True, they did well in the post-1992 period, but that was because the Tory party insisted on public displays of disunity.

The same opinion polls, such as the survey of party officials in The Independent last Saturday, which reveal the relative anonymity of shadow spokesmen, found the same position with Labour before 1997.

In one respect the situation has become worse for the Shadow Cabinet of 1999. Parliament goes largely umreported As Ken Clarke observes: if you want to keep a secret, say it on the floor of the Commons. In previous days William Hague's mastery of the Commons and his undoubted talent as, a speaker better than Heath, Major and Thatcher - would win him plaudits. Today, Parliament is being shunted into second place and reputations

Now, none of this is to excuse

ineffective opposition. Ann Widdecombe demonstrates that it is certainly possible to make an impact. But it is an argument for rejecting suggested panaceas such as the execution of any shadow minister who happens to have been a member of the last government

As it happens, I was not a member of the last government, although I did have a walk-on part as party chairman. Now, as a member of the Shadow Cabinet. I regard it as one of my main tasks to encourage new talents and to help bring them into the Shadow Cabinet.

One of the unrecognised features of the Conservative Party today in Parliament is that there is an exceptional reservoir of talent. It is these politicians that are the leaders of the new, emerging Tory party. But to go from there and argue for the exclusion of anyone who has been associated with the previous regime, is barmy.

The full idiocy of the argument comes when the two chief targets of the lunch-time briefers prove to be Michael Howard and John Redwood. By any standards they are two of the most effective shadow ministers around the Shadow

indeed, rather than excluding the old guard, there is a strong case for bringing back one or two members of the last government who are now on the back benches. Virginia Bottomley is a prime example of the kind of politician I have in mind.

Sadly, there seem to be some who genuinely believe that everything done by the Torics in the past was wrong. But we would not have won four elections in a row without an effective organisation. This was the party which reformed the unions. introduced privatisation and created one of the strongest economies in Europe. The greatest tribute to our past record is that half of our policies are being pursued by the present government.

Of course, there were mistakes and we should learn from them. We need to review all the policy areas. But one thing is certain: discreet political lunches with the illdisguised sub-plot "I am terribly clever but the others are all idiots' will not win elections. Better that everyone should recognise that opposition is hard work and hard pounding, and get on with it.

The writer is shadow Home

To be draped in dead animals feels the height of good taste

IT STARTED unintentionally. I was in New York before Christmas, and there, in Bloomingdales, was the coat of my dreams; wonderfully plain, tapering a little, and with a huge fur collar. I put it on, and it was like love at first sight; I could hardly bear to take it off long enough to pay for it. "It's terribly clever, this stuff," a friend remarked, fingering the collar. "I wonder how they make it – it could be real."

A week or two later I was wearing it when I met a French friend of mine, an austere observer of the proprieties of dress. He complimented me on it. "And the collar – c'est du vison?" "No, no, it's fake," I said complacently. "That's not fake," he said, seizing it. "Look, look." And, brushing back the pile, he showed me what was, unarguably, an animal's pelt. Quite innocently, it overcoat, I'd acquired the skins of two or three small animals, and hung them round my neck. It hadn't even occurred to me that it could be any-

thing but fake. I can't pretend ever to have felt very strongly about fur. But, all the same, one shrinks slightly from it. Perhaps it's a native protestantism, disliking the ostentatious flaunting of money, perhaps the decades of anti-fur campaigns have produced conditions in which the fur coat is simply not an option for anyone but the wives of footballers and the

A rough consensus has arisen, as the generation which wept buckets at 101 Dalmations reached adulthood: leather shoes are all right, partly because cows are useful in other ways and partly because they are difficult to avoid. If you felt strongly about animal rights you might feel self-conscious about a pair

Russian Mafia.



PHILIP HENSHER

A coat made out of the skins of Dalmatian puppies might be rather a divine sort of object

of leather trousers. And other skins are more or less a no-no for anyone making a point in an argument.

And yet who has not felt a tiny twinge of envy for Cruella de Vil; who has not had to suppress the appalling but irresistible thought that, really, a coat made out of the skins of Dalmatian puppies might be rather a divine sort of object?

Certainly, going to countries where there is no widespread feeling against fur can produce shocking experiences. We've all seen those parties of Italian matrons, doing the great capitals of the world, and taking the opportunity to drape some sable over their shoulders. I always feel rather faint when I come across an entire room in the National Gallery filled with one of these groups, glowing with mink. It seems barbaric and ridiculous to swathe oneself in fur, and London is not often cold enough to justify it. And yet they have all, apparently, agreed

It's not, perhaps, quite so bad in colder climates. I have to admit that one winter, when I was in Berlin, I became so frustrated and miserable at the cold that I went out and bought a second-hand, man's fur coat. It's a wonderful thing, but not something you could wear comfortably in London. The Anglo-Saxon world has often found it hard to understand that the rest of the world hardly cares whether a lot of deeply unpleasant and vicious small animals live or die.

Moreover, there's an English notion of quiet good taste in dress, which is difficult to carry through if you look like Animal Hospital on legs. The rest of the world is more robustly indifferent to the rights of animals and, by and large, would prefer to display its money on its back than let it moulder away in a build-

Certainly, one can't imagine those rich Italian matrons making much sense of the latest proposal from California. It has been suggested that anyone selling fur in Beverley Hills should be required by law to display the following, rather bloodcurdling notice: "This product is made with fur from animals that may have been killed by electrocution, gassing, neck-breaking, poisoning, clubbing, stomping or drowning and may have been trapped in steel-jaw, leg-

hold traps. It might have been drafted by Dickens's Fat Boy, wanting to make your flesh creep. Whether this is going to have much effect, if the law is passed, remains to be seen. Some of the young widows of Los Angeles would cheerfully club, stomp and electrocute the animals themselves if they absolutely had to. Not many people who own a mink coat are under the impression that the con-



Glenn Close as Cruella de Vil with a handful of the pups she coveted for a coat in Disney's '101 Dalmatians'

stituent parts led happy and fulfilled lives and passed away in their sleep at the age of 95 in mink years. Unless they are extremely stupid, they've decided not to care, and no number of gruesome statutory notices is likely to have much effect.

One has the slight sense that people are starting to drift back to fur; indeed, it's been striking that in the last few seasons, fur has been acquiring associations of Dark Ages opulence, and turning up in collections for men. As London Men's Fashion Week begins, it will be interesting to see who has started to show an interest in fur for hats, col-

lars, trimmings, the whole works. The truth is that the opposition to fur, in most people, sprang not from any burning ethical commitment, but from peer pressure. And when people get bored of hassling strangers in the street, it will start turning up

the anti-fur decades have taken a moral standpoint, but that's not quite right; it's been much more dictated by taste. Or, to put it another way, it's just one more shift in lashion, which may very well shift back. Meanwhile, I think I'm going to

carry on wearing my coat from Bloomingdales: it's just too nice not to. And a very odd thing seems to be happening to my wardrobe; it is filling up with things made out of the skins of wee innocent beasties, and is starting to look like the party clothes of Vlad the Impaler.

Looking at shoes the other day, I just couldn't resist a pair in black python skin, and another in blond pony. But perhaps the whole thing is going a bit far. A girl I know asked me what the equestrian pair were made out of "Cat," I said. She looked horrified but not, I fear, incredulous; she looked as if she again. We might prefer to think that thought it were just about possible.

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Arguing the case for the nation state

process in which activites, and relations between both individuals and institutions, expand beyond the parochial and the national to the international or global. It is economic in the first instance, arising from trade and production, but very quickly it involves social elements (tourism, migration and ecumenism) and with the increasing emphasis on communication it begins to refer, above all, to a spreading form

It is a rather cute term. much liked by journalists and others who live by spinning words. It is something of an alternative to all those "posts", such as post-industrial and post-national. One crucial globalising fact is television, a visual medium; and vision, as Hobbes pointed out long ago, is the sense out of our five senses which encourages our propensity to fantasy. What we see is often superficial.

of shared human awareness.

This helps create a new situation in which millions of people become increasingly aware of a materially delightful lifestyle available to other

WHAT DOES globalis-ation mean? It is a whites-but which they cannot possibly share in because it has taken us in the West centuries to work it out and develop the capital on which it depends. The resources for everybody sharing it do not exist in current technology. It requires invisible moral virtues these people do not have - forms of prudence, self-control, regularity of work and, above all, a conception of other people as fellow beings to be treated in a regular and helpful way - by contrast with those who can only take seriously people who are kin in some sense. ("Treat a stranger as a thief" is, I am told, an old Japanese saying.)

The continent of Africa most notably lacks many of these virtues and has proved, in our time, incapable of running modern societies. The virtues these countries do have - tribal or ethnic solidarity, for examole - are self-defeating in market terms, though not, perhaps, in what I consider below as "war economies." Asia, in many cases, has similar problems.

Globalisation, or at least beyond the local, has been global institutions to respond to democracy is spreading is the state.



PODIUM KENNETH MINOGUE

From a lecture by the Professor of Political Science at the London School of Economics

going on for millennia, and its

high point, in fact, was the period up to 1914. After that, protectionism, mercantilism and different varieties of war economies dominated the world until after 1945.

The significance of the idea of globalisation is that it has become the basis for a political argument we human beings are now becoming increasingly economic relations extending interdependent, and we need

prominent in arguing that international authority must supersede national. Soros is another declared foe, and much of the thinking behind the European Union is the attempt to defeat globalisation. Hundreds of international treaties cover everything from

this new situation. Environ-

mentalists are especially

the environment to trade to human rights. These treaties are already coercive, as the Pinochet case illustrates. The concept of globalisation

suggests that the world is moving inexorably towards an achieved unity, a system that embraces everyone, and this unity though no doubt moral in terms of human rights, is based on economic transactions. The laws of economics are universal, and human beings may be understood as pursuers of incentives. It is this assumption that feeds into the implication that globalisation has the potential for a peaceful future; it sometimes functions as another branch of the

"end of history" thesis. The common media appreciation is that globalisation is an unstoppable force, that for the moment at least,

The state of the s

through the world as the child 🙀 of rising standards of living, and that the nation state is losing its capacity to control its citizens, because they can now move both themselves and their capital elsewhere. Taxation is becoming subject to competition.

My own suspicion is that globalisation is this time, as in the 19th century, a highly uncertain process which can and will be stopped when convenient. Democracy, I have no doubt, is doomed. It is already pretty notional, a mere responsiveness, and the growing complexity of the world is the perfect soil for experts.

And the nation state ought not to be written off. This is where the power has been, and there is a lot of enthusiasm to keep it there. I might add that, horrible as it has often been, the nation state - at least in the Anglo-Saxon world remains the only institution that offers a release from the parochial. The village community is a nightmare, the of meaningless abstraction. All we have,

Morals, matrimony and money



DEBORAH ORR

Lack of money creates problems in families, but it's not the reason. they are breaking down

AS A working mother with a workaholic husband, a toddler and two young stepchildren, it's not often that I have time to leaf through the many magazines that are ostensibly published to cater for women such as myself. Yesterday, though, I made an exception, and hunkered down with a copy of Prima, the German-owned woman's monthly which became a surprise marketleader when it launched in the UK in the mid-Eighties.

God, it was exhausting. Forget about actually reading the features. Let's concentrate on a few of the tips for completing an action-packed Prima-style February.

Teach your children about sex using the Internet. Try a great new lotion for getting rid of their head lice. Stop using commercial baby food because it may cause allergies. Hit the streets to shop for your spring wardrobe. Get your Valentine's Day celebrations sorted out. Take your body language in hand. Sew exotic cushions. Co-ordinate your desk with fancy filing trays and matching pen-holders. Plant a Zen garden. Make a colonial cupboard/a chopstick frame/Chinese candles/lacquer boxes/laminated place mats /lampshades/ blinds. Give to charity. Organise a sponsored event for charity. Double-check your car's safety and security. Improve the lifestyle of the family dog. Get yourself a new hairdo. Do more exercise, in a dynamic and highly disciplined new regime. Varnish your nails better. Make a complete weekend wardrobe with the free patterns provided. Go on a diet. Knit an outdoor jacket using the instructions below. Change your food shopping habits to create healthier family meals. Redecorate your home from top to bottom. Develop imaginative themes for your children's parties. Find child care that works for you so that you can really focus when you're at work. Self-diagnose simple ailments to the chemist. Cut your cancer risk. Cook dinner in 10 minutes. Go on holiday. Read. Go to the cinema. Go to the theatre. Hire a video. And, of course, consult the stars to see what effect all this self-improvement may have

on your future. So far I've ticked off one thing on this list. I've consulted my stars. This is what they say: "You're under



William Hague, who yesterday launched National Marriage Week, kissing his bride, Ffion, at their wedding last year

John Voos

more pressure than you ever thought possible and something urgent has to happen to sort the situation out. Yet you're up against a rule that can't be broken, a factor that won't budge or a person who won't co-operate. It's all down to the combined influence of Saturn, Mars and Mercury. This is a tense time but it's also highly constructive as it will force you to do one of the bravest things you've ever done and afterwards you'll never look back."

I think you'll agree that what my stars are telling me to do is pretty obvious. That's right. I'm going to strike the Zen garden option off my list. No, sod it, I'm going to chuck Prima straight into the bin without acting on any of its advice. (Well, I'm going to tear out the page with the nit-lotion company number on it, but that's definitely where I stop.) Anyway, the one thing I bought the

Earlier this week Prima released a wide-ranging survey investigating its readers' attitudes towards family life in Britain, prompted by an interview the magazine's editor, Lindsay Nicholson, had conducted with Tony Blair Though the survey results aren't in fact published in this month's Prima, the survey's findings hit the

headlines elsewhere because 71 per cent of Prima readers said home life had become "less satisfying", while 89 per cent of them claimed that "balancing home life and work was tougher now", with 41 per cent citing the reason for this as "not enough time". (Presumably the other 59 per cent do have a Zen garden.)

The rest of the media greeted these revelations with shock, which can only be because they don't understand what Prima women are trying to achieve - old-fashioned. all-singing, all-dancing, knitting, sewing, baking, sampler-stitching wife-and-motherhood, in combination with work, Zen gardening and community health care. Instead they promptly linked Prima's findings with an authoritative report by the Mental Health Foundation saying that one in five children suffers William and Ffion Hague's launch

of National Marriage Week. The latter link is the more obvious and straightforward, since another finding of the Prima survey was that 78 per cent of women questioned considered marriage to be "vital for stable family life", while 80 per cent felt that tax advantages were the best motivation for couples

to enter into and remain in marriage. Enter Mr Hague, with a speech to Sussex Tories signalling new tax policies designed to reward married couples and women who stay at home to care for their families. (Not a choice that William and Ffion themselves have had to work though during their own brief union. but hey, we all understand that the examples political families set on

these occasions have narrow limits.) A good result for Prima readers, but not necessarily so great for the children suffering from mental health problems. The MHF's report cited 21 risk factors, 10 of which are linked to problems in the family, and particularly affect the children of broken families. Hague's argument may be that with his tax advantages, fewer families will be broken; but since the cost of divorce is financially devastating anyway and much, it's difficult to see how a few extra quid a year will make much of an impact.

An added kick in the teeth to children is that 68 per cent of Prima readers believe single mothers should be encouraged to work (as well as knit, and make their own clothes, delicious dinners, etc), presumably so that the money they'd find in balancing home, family and

otherwise be scrounging off the state can be instead be diverted to like-minded married folk such as, say, Tony and Cherie Blair, who can squirrel this dosh away along with their family allowance to provide spending-money during holidays the Seychelles.

Which brings us to another of the problems of further rewarding those who are financially affluent anyway. Already dual-income family units have forced up the cost of living - particularly when it comes to property prices - to the point where a family living on around £30,000 a year can barely afford to purchase a tiny one-bedroom flat in London. Fiddling further with financial inequalities will create as many problems as it solves, and while tax relief for hard-pressed families should be welcomed, financial rewards for comfortably off are surely a frivolous waste of

Lack of money certainly creates problems in families, but it is not the major reason why they are breaking down, and it is not going to be the means by which we stick them back together again. Instead, an answer to the difficulties women

work can be found by flicking

through the male equivalent of Prima. There is, of course, no such thing, although the nearest magazine on the market appears to be Esquire, which calls itself "the sharper read for men". So what do we have here? Our

guide to playboys and playmates. Sex and the C-spot. Catherine Zeta Jones on a rug. What it's like to have a heart attack. How to cheat at cards. Arsenal ladies team. Fear in a glass - the pint cocktail. Pick of the kit for the ultimate bloke's pad. And so on. No babies, no child care, no relationships, no parenting, no knitting, no sewing, no Zen gardens, no 10-minute dinners, and no stars. No idea what the future may hold for married men, or for the children these "men" must someday vaguely assume they'll have.

I don't know which is more damon women by Prima, or the absurd denial of demands placed on men by Esquire. But I do know that it's in the space between these fantasies that families fall apart. It's a space that can be filled by mature reflection on how men and women can really make an equal world in which our children can thrive. But it can't

RIGHT OF REPLY

PETER HEWITT



The chief executive of the Arts Council replies to an article on the Lottery by David Benedict

IT IS a peculiarly British disease. Hundreds of millions of pounds in lottery proceeds come tumbling into the arts and the critics dub it "the biggest disaster ever to befall arts funding in this country". The reality is different: the majority of our capital projects are yet to be completed, but we are on the brink of nothing less than a transformation of the landscape for arts infrastructure in this country thanks to the lottery.

Yes, capital projects can be fraught with risk but this is the case with all developments whether commercial or subsidised, lottery-backed or non-lottery-backed. But the successes speak for themselves. Next month, Sheffield's National Centre for Popular Music opens with £9.5m of lottery funding. Sunderland's National Glass Centre - £5.9m - has already proved a triumph. Of course, we shouldn't forget smaller projects such as the Tricycle Theatre in Kilburn, London - £2m - or the £1.8m to Henshaw's Society for the Blind for a craft centre for visually impaired people in Knaresborough, Yorkshire.

David Benedict rightly highlights the difficulties that could result from the initial lottery blueprint. In a situation where all proceeds had to be ploughed into capital, any revenue implications had to be met from non-lottery budgets. But that was then. Now we are in a position where we can use lottery money to produce a much healthier mix of revenue and capital funding. And we are doing just that.

New lottery legislation both of our cash-streams grant-in-aid and lottery proceeds - to achieve one single strategy. We can't promise there won't ever be problems again with lottery projects. but we can guarantee that the arts and the arts public will be the winners.

Sex and the Samoans

"THIS MEAT has surely been used for soup," says Miss Bartlett at the beginning of A Room with a View. I had similar thoughts on picking up Derek Freeman's latest book on the "Mead-Freeman controversy", about the validity of the American anthropologist's famous fieldwork in Samoa. Freeman published Margaret Mead and Samoa: The Making and Unmaking of an Anthropological Myth in 1983, five years after Mead's death. His earlier book provoked not only many publications but also a play called Heretic, staged in Australia and New Zealand. Yet such is Freeman's skill with condiments that, in the end, one has quite a tasty meal.

The American Anthropological Association won many people over to Freeman's side when it passed a resolution denouncing the 1983 book without inviting Freeman to defend himself. This stupid reaction vindicated the contention that Mead was a liberal American mother-goddess of the Spock era whose cult led her devotees to behave unscientifically when challenged by a rude Australian.



FRIDAY BOOK

THE FATEFUL HOAXING OF MARGARET MEAD BY DEREK FREEMAN, WESTVIEW PRESS, £16.50

The scholarly issue - to what extent had a 24-year-old anthropologist been led to exaggerate sexual permissiveness among Samoan adolescent girls in her 1928 book, Coming of Age in Samoa? - is not of great intrinsic importance. But Mead was to become the first, and most successful, media anthropologist. She built for herself a unique position in American public life as social critic and ambassador for her discipline. (In Britain, she was never so much admired.)

Those who live by the media are often brought down thereby. When Freeman's earlier book was published, Harvard University Press hired a New York PR firm to handle his talk-show bookings. While proclaiming that his only goal is the truth, he has piggybacked on Mead's fame.

FRIDAY POEM

AN INDIAN SUMMER BY DERYN REES-JONES

Sometimes it's as if we're lost, A place on a map that no one can find. And I have to invent us, over and over, Give us names that we smile at: Nova Nostalgia, Valentine Corner, Lost Love's Grove. O my soft and freckled river! I'm the Edwardian lady in an unmanned boat, Lying on cushions, with the sun on her face. Lazily trailing one ungloved hand.

Deryn Rees-Jones's second collection, 'Signs Round a Dead Body', is published at £6.95 by Seren. 2 Wyndham Street, Bridgend CF31 1EF

Freeman does show that Mead's research relied more on hunch than on rigour. Her close relationship with her professor, Franz Boas, did induce Mead to tailor her findings to his hypothesis: that adolescent behaviour was subject to cultural variables, rather than genetically determined. Boas, meanwhile, was over-indulgent towards a book written with Mead's enchanting lit-

Amusingly, Freeman records how Mead skimped on the focused research she had promised Boas because it required spending time with (in her words) "socially unimportant adolescents". Staying in US Navy premises for most of her fieldwork, she was treated as one of the governing élite from America and took on the persona of a visiting taupou or ceremonial virgin (concealing the fact that she had married two years previously).

Freeman's new material is partly based on a reconstitution from archives of Mead's itinerary, and partly on testimony sworn in the late Eighties by an old lady called Fa'apua'a, one of Mead's closest Samoan friends. She confessed that she and a girlfriend had engaged in recreational lying when they told Margaret that they spent their

nights with boys. Freeman builds an edifice upon one evening, 13 March 1926, when Mead is supposed to have been gulled by this ng. But Fa'apua'a was a toupou herself and Mead knew quite well that a toupou's virtue was carefully protected. Moreover, Fa'apua'a and her friend were in their mid-20s, as Mead was - not adolescents. Freeman shows literary flair himself in persuading the reader

that he is building up a watertight case, and he has succeeded in convincing some eminent natural scientists. But he remains a prosecuting attorney rather than an impartial historian.

It may well be that Mead's informants told her what they thought she wanted to hear, and that she did not cross-check the story. But many Samoans have come to resent their culture's reputation for sexual looseness, and this may have slanted Fa'apua'a's evidence in the Eighties. Also, America in the Twenties was quite strait-laced. Mead may have sussed out the reality of private sexual norms in Samoa, and confused these with public rules. In fact, Samoa seems to have been neither especially permissive nor especially restrictive.

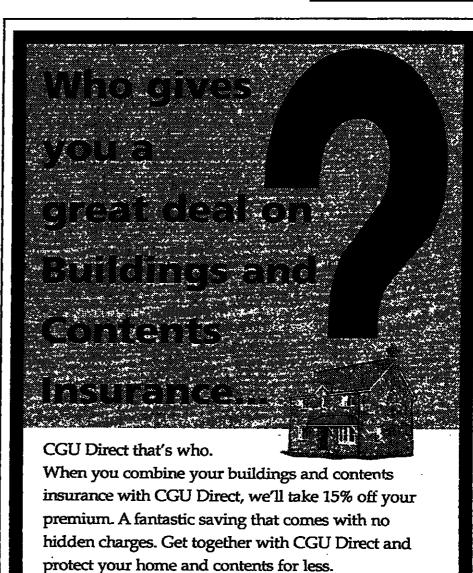
Freeman concedes that Mead and Boas were not deliberately deceifful (they allowed extensive archives to be preserved) so much as "cognitively deluded". Though he oversimplifies Boas's position, Freeman has a point in criticising those anthropologists who think that culture somehow overrides biology. His own pleas for a reintegration of cultural anthropology and evolutionary biology are fine words, but he does not explain how the Samoan debate bears

on the theoretical problems of today.

Mead insisted that her best-seller, Coming of Age in Samoa, should not be revised. It will survive as a literary rather than a scientific classic. And if she was duped? The mistakes people make at the age of 24 acquire public notoriety only if they later become famous.

There was nothing in her of the curmudgeon. In life, she was serially mar-ried to three anthropologists. Freeman, having found the key to her weak spot, has hyphenated himself to her as an endlessly replicating duo in the afterlife of publicity. A feature film must impend: Derek and Margaret, perhaps? JONATHAN BENTHALI

The reviewer is director of the Royal Anthropological Institution

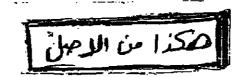


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Robert Barr

ROBERT BARR was an outstanding BBC war correspondent. In peacetime he moved over to television and became a leading writer and. production executive. His work included Z Cars, Softly, Softly and Moonstrike. In 1959 he won the Italia Prize for his television documentary Madico, about the medical service to ships.

Barr's writing career began as a freelance reporter before joining the staff of the Daily Mail. On the outbreak of the Second World War the BBC engaged him as war correspondent and sent him to cover North Sea convoys. Later he landed a plum job. He was one of the four correspondents specially picked from the world's press and radio to travel with and live alongside the Supreme Commander, General Dwight Eisenhower.

Barr was undergoing parachute training outside Manchester when he was told to meet a certain plane. Richard Dimbleby, the BBC's chief war correspondent, emerged from it and said "Don't look round, just get in Everything has been arranged. They want you back in London." Barr found himself straightaway attached to Eisenhower's personal staff.

He described the paratroopers preparing for the D-Day armada:

Their faces were darkened with cocoasheathed knives were strapped to their ankles; handoliers and hand grenades, ankles; haudoliers and hand grenades, coils of rope, pick handles, spades, rubber dinghies hung around them, and a few personal oddments like a lad who was taking a newspaper to read on the plane. As they knelt round their padre in prayer, with bent heads and on one knee, the men with their equipment and camouflaged faces looked like some strange creatures from another world.

Barr was aboard HMS Kelvin which took Churchill, Sir Alan Brooke, Field Marshal Smuts, and others, over to Normandy shortly after D-Day. "About a quarter of a mile from the shore," he reported, "we drove through the water and up on the beach where General Montgomery was waiting with three jeeps. The Kelvin edged her way past Nelson and Ramillies and took up a position right on the German flank. Here the order was given: 'Three salvoes into the German lines'. Mr Churchill, cigar in the corner of his mouth, and his sea cap on the back of his head, smiled and raised his binoculars. And the guns of HMS Kelvin began to pound the German positions

When the General entered Paris Barr left Eisenhower's staff. In 1945 he became a radio features producer and the following year switched to television. When he returned for a visit to Broadcasting House a senior sound producer ran into him at the door. "Good Lord, I thought you were dead." "No I'm not" said Barr. "No? Ah, yes; gone to television; same thing, old chap." That was before the Coronation in 1953, when television for the first time had a bigger audience than radio.

Barr wrote and produced the first documentary ever written for BBC television, Germany Under Control, and followed it with another documentary about the Berlin airift, using a German television crew.

From his fertile pen came such excellent series as Z Cors, Softly, Softly and Spycatcher. The format for Z Cars had been written by Troy Kennedy Martin. Another closely involved with the series was Barr's boss Elwyn Jones. Barr was the Executive Producer. Z Cars, though well received by both the critics and the public, at first caused a certain amount of consternation among the police.

"It was the policemen's wives," disclosed Barr, "They said to their husbands 'You don't carry on like Charlie Barlow do you?' The husbands reassuringly said 'No dear', adding that Charlie Barlow wouldn't last three days in a police force. But The intended first run of 13 was ex-

Remember old so-and-so? He was

climbed from nine to 14 million in the

first eight weeks. The public was

ready to accept that the police were

The audience figures of Z Cars

just like Charlie Barlow'."



Barr was one of four correspondents to travel with General Dwight Eisenhower in 1944

not all fatherly PC Dixon types who helped old ladies across the road and always had a sweet for a lost child.

lowed the career's of Barlow and Watt

as they rose up the force in a new se-

ries Softly, Softly, written by Barr,

with a second-generation cast mov-

One of Barr's early post-war

ing through the old setting.

tion, adapted from his radio series It's Your Money They're After. He wrote another called I Want to be an Actor produced by the then Head of Drama Michael Barry, who much enjoyed, according to Barr, the freedom to talk about the script with its writer and discuss ways to

Barr regularly used to include real people in his dramatic scripts. For instance, in a programme about a hospital ward he engaged eight genuine nurses with his cast of actors. Their task was to give the authentic touch of bedmaking in the ward which had been recreated in

In another programme, with a trial scene including pronouncement of the death sentence, he used a man who had for years been clerk to the Lord Chief Justice; his job was to place a black cap on the actorjudge's head. Only one who had seen

scripts for television was Mock Auc- this happen again and again could - in Barr's opinion - do the action correctly. Barr used to admit that his aim in television documentaries was to interest people in other people rather than to explain some aspect of life in sociological terms.

Barr spent his retirement on the Isle of Bute, which bad long been his favourite home. He had done most of his writing there, though he always went to London for

LEONARD MIALL.

Robert Barr, war correspondent and television scripturiter: born Glasgow 22 December 1909; joined BBC 1939; correspondent covering North Sea Convoys, then special correspondent with Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force 1944; Italia Prize 1959; married 1936 Janet Connell (died 1996; one daughter); died Isle of Bute 30 January 1999. Offended by bad planting

Zibby Garnett

ZIBBY GARNETT was a countrywoman who used her knowledge of all the applied arts that make great houses shine to steer at least two of them into calmer water. Through the Nineties she was immersed in the conservation of decorative arts, first at the Lincoln College of Art and Design and later, after their merger within De Montfort University.

She was a great self-improver who read for the pleasure of it but found the means to bring most of what she learned to good use. By the time she reached Lincoln she had learned her trade in the dismantling of one of the Dukeries (several ducal houses in a small area of Nottinghamshire), Thoresby, 84,000 square feet of "muscular Victorian eclecticism" by Anthony Salvin. In 1980 it had been passed to British Coal which preferred to be the owner of its problems rather than answerable to others for the subsidence their undermining was causing. By 1988 they wanted shot of it and exercised the right to move the family, still in occupation, out of it.

Zibby Garnett was ready, having finished a good, but less than halfcomplete, catalogue of the contents, and then put method into the se-lection of what should be kept for use in a new building and what should go for sale. She was, alone, the person prepared to know about each object, the part it played in the overall scheme of decoration and how it related to the remainder. She informed every decision that was later taken to preserve the core collection from several thousand objects.

She was fastidious enough to be offended by a bad fit within a decorative scheme or, equally, by bad planting. She baffled everyone at Thoresby by complaining of the tea roses planted on the terrace which were of obvious vigour and unprecedented display. "They are tea roses only hybridised after 1945 and quite out of place in a parterre designed by Nesfield in 1868." But she was never



a bore or pedant. Because her purist tendency was the product of her enthusiam and excitement in the subject she carried the audience with her 1),11

She left Thoresby before the roses had been replanted to join an English Heritage team that was bringing Brodsworth, near Doncaster back to life after its period asleep. This meant applying the same skills and discretion to build up, to get the fabric cleaned and replaced, to see the spirit of the place emerge again.

Lincoln was an obvious next sten. There she made a temporary, freelance assignment into a permanent role. Although her work was chiefly administrative she was, at the least unusual in having no higher qualifications at all. She had received an education and lifelong values, if few exams, in her convent schooling at St Hilda's, Whitby, while growing up in the North East.

After coming on to the staff at Lincoin she led an HND course and later set up a new research department. the "Centre for Conservation Studies". It was perhaps an obvious choice when De Montfort wanted to take the new school up in the world they should ask Garnett to create from nothing the international links and to set up the student exchanges that would prompt the crossfertilisation arts education depends on. Through that she found friends in Europe and India and would, had she lived, no doubt have extended this range throughout the world.

She always treated new interests and tasks as a means to make new and proper friendships wherever she landed. This was not a planned career cut short by the cancer that hunted her for 12 years but a journey from one interesting place to another with plenty to get on with as she went. Outside her paid work she was taken up with causes centred on the arts and architecture, although her membership of the Diocesan Synod hardly fits that definition and, here also, in spite of her own modest assessment of her abilities others saw fit to push her into the lead.

At home in Norwell, a small redbrick village north of Newark, where she came in 1977 with her husband, David Garnett, they gave creative life to many of the interests and principles they shared. They showed how a proper knowlege of plants and their history can lead to an infinitely more stimulating effect than the ignorant motivated only by a sense of colour or immediate impression.

HUGH MATHESON

Elizabeth Pamela Stock, arts administrator: born Newcastle 14 October 1944; married 1971 David Garnett; died Norwell, Nottinghamshire 15 January 1999.

Charles Davis

ON 21 December 1966 Charles come a priest and from the age of Davis, the best-known Catholic theologian in Britain and editor of The Clergy Review, announced that he was leaving the Roman Catholic Church in which he had ceased to believe. He was also about to marry an old friend, Florence Henderson, a member of the Grail, an international society of committed Catholic women. He had made the first decision before telling Florence. It was as much a surprise to her as to everyone else.

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The news took both the Catholic mer of 1965. Church and England by storm. Davis had given the Maurice Lectures at King's College London a few months before, the first Catholic to do so, and they had just been published as God's Grace in History (1966). He had also recently been appointed Professor of Theology at the new Jesuit-run university college of Heythrop in Oxfordshire, after years of teaching at St Edmund's Seminary, Ware. How could this apparent volte-face be explained?

Davis was born in 1923 in Swindon. He early resolved to be-

15 lived in one or another seminary, large institutional communities easily fostering loneliness beneath an atmosphere of superficial camaraderie. He was ordained a priest in 1946 for Westminster archdiocese and was allowed just two years of further theological study at the Gregorian University in Rome, before being appointed to teach theology at Ware, where he had himself studied, and then remained as Professor until the sum-

I remember visiting him there and being struck, not only by the clarity and conviction of his thinking. but also by a noticeable cultural narrowness. Despite his quite exceptional intelligence, he was never given the chance of serious university study or of tackling any field apart from Catholic systematic theology.

But for many years he hardly felt the constraints. No one seemed more moderate in his advocacy of new ideas, more absolutely loyal to the system. Even the intellectual up-

Suddenly Davis felt the dreary clerical weight of the system, with its heavily authoritarian dimensions. intolerable and pointless

The audience figures of Z Cars climbed

from 9 to 14 million in the first eight

weeks. The public was ready to accept

the police were not all PC Dixon types

who helped old ladies across the road

after a little while they'd start to say tended to 31. A loyal audience fol-

heaval that went with the Second Vatican Council (1962-65), while it stimulated his thinking and gave him many opportunities to lecture in Britain and abroad, to the enormous benefit especially of lay groups, had not seemed to radicalise

him unduly. Yet suddenly Davis felt the drea-



its heavily authoritarian dimensions, simply intolerable and point-less. While he abandoned Roman Catholicism, he remained, he insisted, a Christian, though refusing to join any other church.

After a brief visiting fellowship at Clare College, Cambridge, where he wrote A Question of Conscience ry clerical weight of the system, with (1967) to explain his decision, he was

offered a professorship at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, to begin a new Department of Religious Studies. In 1970 he moved to the University of Concordia, Montreal, where he chaired its Department of Religious Studies for 15 years. He was also President of the Canadian Society for the Study of Religion. He retired and returned to

The world he and his wife had chosen to inhabit seemed at first a 'desert" through which to find a Christian way, unsupported by the ecclesiastical institution which had hitherto so completely controlled his life. They did it with characteristic earnestness, ever hospitable, intellectually open, yet devout. Charles himself baptised his children, initiating them into an informal "house church", but without withdrawing from public worship.

After a period of attending the Andican cathedral in Montreal, they found themselves little by little gravitating back towards the Catholic community, helped by many Catholic friends. Registering at one

international conference he was expected to name his church. "What should I say?" asked Davis nervously of Raimundo Pannikar, next to him in the queue. "Roman Catholic, of course," was the reply. and that is what he wrote. A series of books appeared over

the years, notably his Cambridge Hulsean Lectures of 1978, Theology and Political Society and his final work, Religion and the Making of Society (1994). Ever since 1966 he had been impressed, perhaps over-impressed, by the importance of sociology and the fact of "secularisation". How to free religion in modernity from the destructive dichotomy between sacred and secular?

While he never regretted the stern decision of 1966, which brought him personal liberation and much happiness, Charles Davis was able in his final years to become a very regular communicant at Catholic eucharists both in Cambridge and in Edinburgh, where he died after struggling for eight years with

It was encouraging that his daughter Claire should be studying for a PhD in Theology at Edinburgh, but for himself it was in writing poetry that he finally found the best way of self-expression. The clarity, forthrightness and intense seriousness of earlier years mellowed into a gentle peacefulness, deeply moving for old friends, at once vindication and transformation of the struggles of the 1960s.

ADRIAN HASTINGS

Charles Alfred Davis, theologian: born Swindon, Wiltshire 12 February 1923; ordained priest 1946; Professor of Dogmatic Theology, St. Edmund's Seminary, Ware 1952-65; Professor of Theology, Heythrop University College 1965-66; Pro-fessor of Religious Studies, University of Alberta, Edmonton 1967-70; Professor of Religious Studies, Concordia University, Montreal, 1970-91; Principal, Lonergan College, 1987-91; married 1967 Florence Henderson (one son, one daughter); died Edinburgh 28 Januaru 1999.

Rear-Admiral Otto Steiner

OTTO STEINER acronymically OHMS and whose Germanic given names - Ottokar Harold Mojmir St John Steiner - led to many a reference to the Navy List, was descended from a Central European family rooted in the Austro-Hungarian

Born in 1916, be entered the Royal Navy from St Paul's School as a public school special entry cadet in 1935. He first went to sea in the light cruiser Orion and then in the heavier town-class Southampton. Not content with what the Fleet provided, he iomed the newly formed Royal Naval Sailing Association in 1937 before being commissioned as a sublieutenant in March 1938. Within a year he was junior officer in the modern destroyer Ilex which, with her sister Imogen, sank U42 in the Western Approaches on 13 October 1939.

Three months later he moved to

notable part in the unfortunate Norwegian campaign of 1940. It is said that her modest fire power was augmented by the mountain howitzers of a French unit supporting two alpine battalions outside Narvik, mounted on her upper deck.

Nevertheless, she was soon reduced to extricating troops, first from Norway to Scotland and then from Lorient in France to Plymouth. Steiner received his first mention in despatches for his part in sinking the Italian submarine Foo di Bruno off Gibraltar on 8 November 1940; his second was in 1941 for his work in saving the French destroyer Le Triomphant.

After a torpedo course at Portsmouth he joined the elderly cruiser Frobisher in the East Indies; he returned for another six months to Portsmouth, in Vernon, this time in the electrical department. Until the the older Havelock which played a electrical branch of the Navy was es- until he was promoted Commander turned for the Senior Officers War

Navy's use of the "subtle and himponderable fluid" as a pensioner CPO once described electricity.

Steiner finished the war as a Lieutenant-Commander in the new cruiser Superb. The Admiralty, mindful of the Geddes axe after the First World War, had granted wartime commissions to so-called RNVR officers (much to the fury of many pre-war members), and this meant an easier demobilisation, with no bulge of officers whose services

were literally no longer required. But competition between surviving professionals was as keen as ever. Much depended on the pattern of an officer's appointments, and Steiner was well served by his appointers. He took the naval staff course in 1947 and then went to the staff of the C-in-C, Far East Fleet Canadian crews, and when he re-

tablished later in the war, torpedo of-ficers were responsible for the officer in the cruiser Ceylon, where his Captain was Roy Foster-Brown, and then to Daedalus, the naval air station at Lee-on-Solent.

These appointments were interspersed with the Joint Services Staff Course and attendance at the Nato Defence College, and culminated in his promotion to Captain in 1956 after only six years, which was good going. He had one job in the Admiralty, rationalising the underwater research and development work in Osprey at Portland, before going to command the Battle class destroyer Saintes and the third

destroyer squadron, 1958-60. There followed two agreeable years as naval adviser to the British High Commission in Canada, where he presented the Steiner Cup, still contested between British and Course in 1962. From Belgrave Square he went to sea for his last command, the light Fleet carrier Centour. This was enhanced by a swift and successful demonstration of seapower. The army of the new republic in Tanganyika mutinied. Centour raced to Aden to embark a Royal Marine Commando and a flight of helicopters and, rendezvousing with the destroyer Cambrian, quenched an incipient insurrection in Dar es Salaam.

In 1965 Steiner was ADC to the Queen, the following year he was promoted to the flag list and he was appointed CB in 1967. From 1966 until he retired in 1968 he was an Assistant Chief of the Central Defence Staff. He then turned in 30 years of active and happy retirement. Sailing had always been his great pleasure. He lost little time on leaving the Navy in promoting and 1975), 1975 Eleanor Powell (one

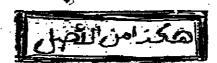
Round the World race, sponsored by the brewing firm.

The first race was held in 1972-73. after Steiner had directed the arrangements for the four parts one was longer than any event up to that time. He became Vice-Commodore of the Association in time for the first race, and stepped down as Commodore after the second in 1977. He was always in demand as skipper or spare crew, but never to the detriment of the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society, which he served as chairman for 20 years.

A. B. SAINSBURY

Ottokar Harold Mojmir St John Steiner, naval officer: born & July 1916; CB 1967; married 1940 Evelyn Young (died 1994; one son, one daughter; marriage dissolved





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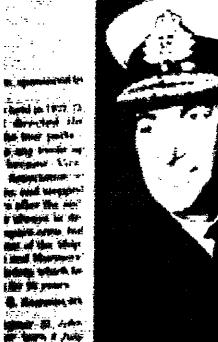
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Jeanne-Marie Darré

JEANNE-MARIE Darré was one of this mann and Saint-Saens, who had died century's foremost representatives of the French school of pianism, combining its concern with precision and clarity with a sympathy for large-scale Romantic gesture - she was, in Nicolas Slonimsky's words, "a virtuoso in a grand manner".

Darré was born in Givet, close to the French border with Belgium, in 1905 and until the age of 10 took lessons from her mother Her first important teacher was Marguerite Long, in whose preparatory class at the Paris Conservatoire she won a premier prix in 1917. She then went on to study with the doyen of French piano-teachers, Isidore Philipp, winning the premier prix in his class in 1919 and subsequently studying with him privately.

Philipp would assign his students exercises to remedy particular short-comings rather as a doctor prescribes medicine for given diseases, and in an interview with Charles Timbrell for his book French Pianism: a historical perspective (1992), Darré recalled how he helped her compensate for her small hands; she would spend hours and hours on technique every day, well beyond the two or three that Philipp recommended. She explained her teachers' principal concern:

Finger technique is what Long and Philipp were about. Very clear articulation was obtained from exercises with high fingers that strike fast into the keys. Of course, it is very important to have a relaxed wrist.

Darré implemented this approach from a position that was unusually high above the keyboard

The American pianist Grant Johannesen, again in conversation with Charles Timbrell, declared that "Jeanne-Marie Darré has been the best example of what the old French school was all about. She had a certain reserve about her playing and a wonderful petite technique of fingers and wrists. But she was also drawn to the big literature, and was not arty and precious, as some French pianists have been."

Darré made her Paris début at the age of 20, playing a generous programme of Galuppi, Couperin, Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt, Henselt, Moszkowski. Chabrier, her teacher Philipp, and Schubert-Tausig - the kind of healthily eclectic mix that today's purists primly avoid. She had begun her recording career even earlier, making a number of Vocation 78s in 1923, when she was only 18; the composers chosen

only two years previously.

In the event, Saint-Saens - to whom Darré had played his own music, as she did theirs to Fauré and Ravel - was to play a substantial role in her life. In 1926 she was catapulted to prominence, when, aged only 21, with the Lamoureux Orchestra conducted by Paul Paray, she played all five Saint-Saens concertos in a single evening, a feat she repeated on other occasions. But Darré was fond of tackling head-on a composer's work in a particular genre: she would happily programme all the Chopin Preludes and

Etudes in a single recital. Darre's career was largely confined to France until, in February 1962, she made her US début at Carnegie Hall in New York, with Charles Munch and the

Her playing at all times manifests an interest in neat. finely grounded pianism; each nut and bolt is squarely placed'

Boston Symphony Orchestra accompanying her in her beloved Saint-Saens this time only the Second Concerto. She made a considerable impact. The New York Times critic Harold C. Schonberg. a judicious connoisseur of pianists, found her "an exciting, formidable, electrical virtuoso, who can do anything at the keyboard and do it with aplomb. But it is not all technique. She has complete tonal control, and a massive sonority."

Over the next 20 years she returned regularly to the US, before retiring from the concert stage in the early 1980s. She was an infrequent visitor to Britain, last appearing in 1974 at the Royal Festival Hall at a gala concert in aid of the International Piano Library; unsurprisingly, she played Saint-Saëns - the Toccata, Op 111, which was her pièce de τέsistunce.

The conductors she worked with form a roll-call of some of the most important names of the century: as well as the composers Gabriel Pierné. Vincent d'Indy (whose Symphonie were Bach, Weber, Mendelssohn, Schu- cévenole she recorded on 78s) and



Philippe Gaubert, there were André Chuytens, Henry Wood, Gregor Fitelberg. George Szell, Eugene Ormandy, Ernest Ansermet and Constantin Silvestri.

Darré was not a frequent visitor to the studio, although she made a number of respected recordings which testify to her prodigious ability. In the late 1950s, with Louis Fourestier and the Orchestre National de la Radiodiffusion Française, she recorded, of course, the five Saint-Saens concertos, as well as his Septet - a set which has recently been re-released on CD by EMI France. The American label Vanguard has just reissued two recordings from around the same time: a disc of the Chopin Waltzes and another featuring the Liszt Sonata.

That work was one of Darré's specialities. In his book The Art of the Piano (1990), David Dubal explained what was so special about her Liszt:

She thrives in objective scores, such as the Ravel G major Concerto, Weber's Konzert-stück, or any of the Saint-Saëns concerti, for which she is famous. At her best, she is alert and glittering, possessing a dryness of tone that is characteristic of French pianism in general. At her worst, she sounds curt, even heartless. Her playing at all times manifests an interest in neat, finely grounded pianism; each nut and bolt is squarely placed.

Her prime achievement on record is a fas-cinating portrayal of the Liszt Sonata, which she spins out to 33 minutes, 20 seconds. Darre has placed this complex puzzle under her microscope and dissected its every frag-ment. She strips the massive work of its usual Faustian rumblings and bombest, giv-ing us the quintessential French Liszt Sonata: slim, linear, and controlled from first note to last. Jeanne-Marie Darré was not a

prophet without honour in her own country. In 1958 she was appointed professor of piano at the Paris Conservatoire. In 1966 she was made an Officier of the Légion d'honneur and, a year later, a Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres.

MARTIN ANDERSON

Jeanne-Marie Darré, pianist: born Givet. France 30 July 1905: died Port Marlu, France 26 January 1999.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES

An explosive element of modern civilisation

man" to provide potassium ni-

trate; the rise and fall of the

American Powder Trust; the

American Civil War, the great

British shell shortage at the

start of the First World War,

the dropping of the atomic

bombs on Hiroshima and Na-

gasaki to end the Second

World War, the post-war de-

velopment of the hydrogen

bomb; and the use of Semtex

Nobel, born in Stockholm in

1833, played a major role in

the story. He invented the

patent detonator, dynamite.

blasting gelatine, gelignite,

and ballistite, and, on his death in 1896, he ruled a

world-wide empire with 93

factories, and his estate was

Nobel's English contem-

The formidable Alfred

by terrorists.

valued at £2m.

EXPLOSIVES HAVE provided the world's most powerful source of portable energy for almost a millennium

The story of explosives begins with gunpowder, ranked by Thomas Carlyle, along with printing and the Protestant religion, as one of "the three great elements of modern civilisation". Because it looks like soot, gunpowder is commonly known as blackpowder, it consists of a mixture of potassium nitrate, sulphur and charcoal.

It was almost certainly invented in China in the middle of the ninth century AD, and it was first used there in fireworks to frighten away evil spirits. It was probably introduced into the Western world by Roger Bacon about 1250 AD, using an enigmatic anagram to hide its composition. Although it was far from perfect, it was the only explosive to be used for practical purposes for around 600 years.

Thereafter, from around 1870, it was replaced by the so-called high explosives or nitro-compounds. The first two were nitrocellulose or guncotton and dynamite. made from nitroglycerine. but they were followed, over the years, by blasting gelatine, gelignite, Lyddite, TNT, RDX, PETN, HMX, and HNIW

Important events in the history of explosions include the methods of testing gunpowder, which, surprisingly, led to the invention of the steam engine; the early development of cannons and hand guns; the downfall of the and invented cordite. Guv Fawkes is an infamous mem-Byzantine empire, in 1453, when new-fangled gunpowber of the rolecall for his acder proved to be more effectivities on 5 November 1605: tive than the old Greek fire: Sir William Congreye for his invention of early rockets at the advance of the Moguis into northern India in 1526; the start of the 19th century; the overthrow of the Incas in the du Pont family, who fled Peru, the Aztecs in Mexico, from France to America, in the Red Indians in America, 1800, and established a gunthe Aborigines in Australia, powder factory in Wilmingand the Maoris in New ton. Delaware, which has Zealand; the collapse of the grown into today's vast infeudal system in Britain; the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588; the edict of King Charles I, in 1626, that "his loving subjects . . . shall keep and preserve all the urine of

ternational organisation. One, the Rev Alexander Forsyth, thanks to his enjoyment of shooting wildfowl in Scotland invented the percussion cap which revolutionised the firing of guns, in 1805; Thomas Bickford, a Devonian leather merchant, invented safety fuse, which greatly reduced the risk in the setting off of explosives; the American, Charles E. Munroe, made shaped charges; Chaim Weizmann, saved the day, in 1915, by inventing a method of making acetone from conkers, and eventually became the first President of the State of Israel; and the international team of scientists, led by Robert Oppenheimer and General Leslie Groves, brought the Manhattan Project, which developed atomic bombs, to fruition during the Second World War.

What they achieved, in a unique field of technology, has greatly affected all our lives.

porary was Sir Frederick Ahel the Chief Chemist to the G.I. Brown is the author of War Office, who devised a safe The Big Bang – a history of method of making guncotton explosives' (Sutton, £19.99)

Frederick Sommer

FREDERICK SOMMER was a photographer who influenced generations with his distinctive, often surreal, images of collages, horizonless landscapes, blurry nudes and cameraless abstractions. Often described as a gadfly, an eccentric and a photographer's photographer, Sommer worked in Aricirona for more than 50 years before surendering his relative obscurity, in the last few years of his life, to photography collectors and museums.

His low profile stemmed from 1950s attitudes to photography, when many of the established photographers favoured a documentary and aesthetically easy approach to photography and dismissed Sommer's work as unphotogenic and unpleasant. His critics were particularly offended by a photograph he had taken in 1939 of an amoutated leg and foot, as

other detritus. That series included chicken parts carefully arranged to form strange new shapes.

Sommer photographed recreations of other artists' work decades before the practice became an established routine post-modernism. He would tear lithographs apart and then recombine the bits and pieces to form new images; he constructed surrealist compositions out of dismantled dolls and, in the 1960s, created abstract, cameraless images out of candle smoke deposits or oil paint pressed between sheets of cellophane.

Sommer was born in Italy in 1905, and was an avid student of art and philosophy who early on displayed a gift for drawing, although he initially set out to be a landscape architect. He grew up in Rio de Janeiro where his father had es-

Sommer later received a master's degree in landscape architecture at Cornell University.

In the early 1930s, he taught drawing and design in New York. Then, in 1935, he showed his work to the photographer and dealer Alfred Stieglitz, who encouraged him to form a fresh view of photography in relation to art.

A later meeting with Edward Weston led him to replace smaller cameras with a larger, 8-by-10-inch view camera, with which he began to take pictures of what he found in and about Prescott, Arizona, where he then lived with his wife. Frances. At a party in California in 1941, Sommer met the Surrealist Max Ernst and from then on the surreal became a defining component of his work.

In the 1970s, when the market for fineart photography was still in its infancy,

the 1930s and 1940s of dead animals and tablished a landscape architecture firm. Sommer joined the Light Gallery, one of only two galleries in New York devoted to photography at the time. In 1976, the Center for Creative Photography in Tucson acquired a major collection of his photographs.

However, it was only in the last few years that critics, curators and collectors seem to have finally discovered Sommer and his work is now offered

at auction. In 1992, the Nazraeli Press in Tucson, Arizona, published a book of his work, All Children are Ambassadors, and two years later the Getty Museum acquired more than 100 of his photographs and collages, and held an exhibition of his work.

EDWARD HELMORE

Frederick Sommer, photographer: born 1905; married; died Prescott, Arizona 23 January 1999.

Beer tie agreement ceased to be void

WHERE, AS a result of a change of circumstances, a prohibition on a beer tie agreement imposed by Article 85(1) of the EC Treaty no longer applied as between the parties to the agreement, the agreement between them ceased to be void under Article 85(2).

The Court of Appeal upheld the decision of Laddie J that a beer tie in a lease held by the plaintiff was enforceable.

The plaintiff was tenant of a public house under a lease granted by the second defendant, IPCL, which contained a tie requiring the lessee to purchase beer from IPCL and no

other supplier. On 29 July 1992 the reversion of the lease was transferred by IPCL to the first defendant, Morland. The plaintiff's solicitor wrote to Morland stating that the beer tie contained in the lease was void ob initio as a result of the provisions of Article 85 of the EC Treaty, and that it remained so irrespective of the identity of the owner of the freehold reversion, so that the tie

was unenforceable by Morland.

Article 85(1) provided that all agreements between undertakings, decisions by associations of undertakings, and concerted practices which might affect trade between member states and which had as their object or effect the prevention, restriction or distortion of competition within the common market "shall be prohibited" as incompatible with the common market. Article 85(2) provided that agreements or decisions so prohibited "shall be

defunct? His biography of

Woody Allen opens with

cross Madison Avenue.

FRIDAY LAW REPORT

5 FEBRUARY 1999

Passmore v Morland plc and others Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Beldam, Lord Justice Potter and Lord Justice Chadwick) 2 February 1999

fendants claiming, inter alia, damages for breach of Article 85(1) and restitution of sums alleged to have been unlawfully charged by Morland. Morland issued a summons to strike out the plaintiff's claim on the ground that it disclosed no

reasonable cause of action. The judge held that as and when the obligations created by the lease between IPCL and the plaintiff gave rise to effects prohibited by Article 85(1) they became a nullity in the sense that they were absolutely un-enforceable between the parties. The effect of the assignment between IPCL and Morland was to pass those obligations to the latter and since, in Morland's hands, they were inoffensive, they were enforceable. The plaintiff's claim was accordingly struck out. The

plaintiff appealed. Gerald Barling QC and Mark Brealey (Maitland Walker, Minehead) for the plaintiff; Nicholas Green QC and Aidan Robertson (Kimbell & Co, Milton Keynes) for

proceedings against the de-that Article 85(1) of the EC

Treaty only prohibited agreements and concerted practices which had a particular offensive economic objective Each agreement or clause in

an agreement had to be examined in the factual context in which it was to be operated in order to decide whether it was within the prohibition. It followed that an agreement which was not within Article 85(1) at the time when it was entered into might subsequently, and as a result of a change in circumstances, come within the prohibition. It must also follow that an agreement which was within the prohibition at the time when it was entered into might subsequently, and as a result of a change in circumstances, fall outside the prohibition.

Article 85(2) had to be construed in conjunction with Article 85(1), in particular in the light of an appreciation that the prohibition in Article 85(1) was temporaneous or transient rather than absolute, in the sense that it endured for a finite period of time rather than for all time. The nullity imposed by Article 85(2) was an exact reflection of the prohibition imposed by Article 85(1); accordingly, if the prohibition was temporaneous or transient, so was the nullity.

In the present case, as a result of the change in circumstances when the reversion in the tenancy passed to Mor-land, the prohibition no longer applied as between the parties to the agreement, and the agreement between them accordingly ceased to be void.

KATE O'HANLON

GAZETTE

former chairman, the

National Trust, 83; Miss

Susan Hill, novelist and

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

DEATHS

JANES: artist, Alfred George
Anstee, peacefully after a short
illness, at King's College Hospital, on Wednesday 3 February.
Dearly loved husband of Mary
and father of Ross and Hilly, and
grandfather of Alexander. Private funeral. Memorial service
in London to be arranged.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT et (ra). OTHER Gazette amouncements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages), which must be submitted in writing, are charged at £10 a line. are charged at £10 a line,

The Independent's main switchboard number is 0171-293 2000.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

Mr N. Tyce and Miss H. Nimmo Smith The engagement is announced between Nathaniel, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ian Tyce, of Maidstone, Kent, and Harriet, daughter of Lord and Lady Nimmo Smith, of Edinburgh.

BIRTHDAYS

Mr Red Buttons, actor and comedian, 80; Lord Gibson.

ROYAL

ENGAGEMENTS

The Prince of Wales opens

the new Clarendon College,

Nottingham; visits the Mace-

don Trust's Albion Nightshel-

Queen's Medical Centre, Not-

ter, Nottingham; visits the

tingham; and visits Park

playwright, 57; The Hon Douglas Hogg QC MP, 54; Miss Melanie Johnson MP, 44; Professor Adam Neville. former Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Dundee University, 76; Mr Niek Palmer MP. 49; The Very Rev Colin Semper, former Canon of Westminster, 61; Sir Rodney Sweetnam, former orthopaedic surgeon to the Queen, 72; Lord Williams of Mostyn QC, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Constitution, 58.

Farm, Wellow, Notting-

Royal, President, the

hamshire. The Princess

Princess Royal Trust for

Carers, attends a Luncheon

for Scotland, Edinburgh; vis-

Fellow of the Royal Society of

at Lloyds TSB Foundation

its Edinburgh Academy, is

admitted as an Honorary

Edinburgh; and attends a

ANNIVERSARIES Births: Sir Robert Peel,

statesman, 1788; "Patsy Elias H. Hendren, cricketer, 1889. Deaths: Thomas Carlyle, writer and historian, 1881; Emeric Pressburger, film producer, 1988. On this day: the Spanish captured Minorca from the British, 1782; the Royal Air Force College was founded at Cranwell, Lincolnshire, 1920. Today is the Feast Day of St Adelaide of Bellich, St Agatha, St Avitus of Vienne, St Bertuiph or Bertoul of Renty, Saints

dinner for Marie Curie Can-

cer Care, Edinburgh Castle.

The Duke of Kent, Patron,

Stoke Mandeville Burns and

Reconstructive Surgery

Hospital, Aylesbury,

extension to Chesham

High School, Chesham,

Trust, attends a hinch and

seminar at Stoke Mandeville

Buckinghamshire; opens an

Indractus and Dominica and St Vodalus or Voel

SYNAGOGUE SERVICES Details of synagogue ser-

vices to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 4.42pm. United Synagogues: 0181-243 5989.
Pederation of Synagogues: 0181-202
2263. Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues: 0171-580 1663.
Reform Synagogues of Great
Britair: 0187-349 4731. Spanish and
Peringues: Jews Congregation:
0171-289 2873.

Buckinghamshire; and

The Household Cavalry

Horse Guards, 11am.

Systems, Chesham.

visits Blease Anaesthesia

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

automatically void". The plaintiff commenced Lord Justice Chadwick said

ARE JOHN Baxter's eyes

the Carlyle on the wrong avenue, and has Allen creeping "through back Mounted Regiment mounts alleys, fire doors and corthe Queen's Life Guard at ridors from his apartment to the kitchen areas of the Carlyle" for his Monday-

WORDS CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE dissolve, v.

The book continues in this sour, ramshackle way, but has some interest, as in night gig. In fact, he has to Allen's describing his mar-

dissolved. She's furious. "Dissolved? I like that A divorce is a cut-off, whereas 'dissolved' means it gradually goes into something different." Wrong – Allen has Chaucer and the Brontēs, among others, on his side. Ms Lasser is perhaps thinking of the cinematic term: an apt one for Allen's riage to Louise Lasser as lingering with past loves.

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and a minimum of which interest in

It's enough to make an atheist cry 'Hallelujah!'

performer asks the audience to clap and shout, it usually takes several goes to get a response, and yells of "come on, we can do better than that", while half the audience mutters "um ber ahub". painfully embarrassed. But at the London City evangelical church service in Notting Hill, everyone leaps up, sings, claps and waves furiously from the start. God, whether he exists or not, is a master of audience

The second song was clearly a favourite, as everyone cheered after the opening bar, the way a Barry Manilow audience would for "Mandy". The words to this jolly, clappy sing-along came up on a screen: "The Lord reigns over us / He burns all his enemies/ And the hills melt like wax/ La la la la la."

If evangelists want to set the Bible to music, it might be more fitting as a series of heavy-metal songs. The riff from Black Sabbath's "Paranoid", for instance, springs to mind as perfect backing for the line, "People say he's vengeful because he has drowned the

session of topical prayers. A preacher, contorting and undulating with emotion, implored the congregation to pray to the Lord to help the people of Colombia as they suffer from that earthquake. The room became filled with whoops of "amen". "oh yes", and "we pray to you Lord". Suddenly you couldn't help feeling humble. Whether or not you believe that these prayers would achieve anything, here were hundreds of people selflessly reaching inside nselves in the sincere hope that their pleading would be heard. Which has to have the edge on glancing at the news, saying "Oo, isn't it dreadful" and

turning over for the snooker. Kosovo, too, got a lengthy mention. Then Bill Clinton -"Pray, oh pray, we pray to you, Jesus, to bring peace unto that country and their President as they face difficult times." Strangely though – and a little unfairly, I thought - there was nothing for Monica.

What happens to this section of the service, I wondered, in weeks when there isn't much in the news? Does the preacher say, passion. Whereas God must look

"We pray, oh Lord Jesus, we pray for the Undersecretary of State for Agriculture, rumoured to be facing demotion in the forthcoming Cabinet reshuffle"? And with their inside sources. you'd think they'd have known in advance what was coming to

Glenn Hoddle. Next came a solo from an excellent soul singer, and then the announcement: "And now for this week's offering." I can't be the only person who's been at their first evangelical service, heard this announcement and thought, "Bloody hell, they're going to carve up a goat."

It turns out to be the collection. But even this part of the service reveals something of the Pentecostal church's appeal. The money bag is handed around amidst a fiery philosophical sermon, dealing with the nature of giving and Abel's self-centred offering to God. Whereas Church of England collections involve a bald vicar asking whether you could stump up a bit extra this week, as he had to call the plumber out to fix the boiler.

during coffee morning. The whole show crackles with MARK STEEL



LOCATION

at the Church of England, its groaning suburban hymns, turgid sermons and twee parish newsletters, and think "Is that it? I created the world and heaven and destroyed cities and burned my enemies, and you think you can impress with a jumble sale and a harvest bloody festival?" Preacher Colin Dye steams

through a 50-minute sermon, using jokes and impressions, not failing to include in his performance a TV camera, which oeams the service across Europe. He never stumbles, and he uses no notes and no autocue.

If he were to change his subject

matter, the BBC would surely sack Carol Vorderman and offer him any show he liked.

Many are puzzled that so many people seem convinced by the apparently irrational arguments of evangelical Christianity. But the first part of Colin's sermon confirmed Marx's view, that religion's appeal is as the "heart in a heartless world".

Colin spoke of Saint Peter helping a beggar, adding that for Christians to win over the poor spiritually, they had to want to help them financially. True Christians always assist the poor and the sick, insisted Colin. What a contrast to around the corner where, within testifying distance of the church, lives a recently deposed Cabinet Minister, whose sermons argued that for New Labour to win over wealthy businessmen spiritually, they had to want to help them financially. Which led the minister to pour scorn and contempt upon the poor, even secretly borrowing

much gold to purchase a temple. So it could almost make an atheist believe... When lo, the very temple from which he preached did smite him down and now it's up for sale again.

coffee and biscuits for potential converts. My first question was: Those prayers for Colombia, wouldn't they have been more useful last week? You know, before the earthquake happened?" The woman I was

asking walked off. Then I spoke to Marie-Anne who, with great zeal and charm, tried to convert me, plucking quotes from the Bible for every occasion. Sex outside marriage was sin, because God created Eve for Adam. And all the dinosaur fossils and big bang theories in the universe wouldn't shift her from that.

It crossed my mind to try and argue that the laws of the Bible were products of their times, that rules forbidding pork, for example, weren't there because of a holy squirminess on behalf of pigs, but because it was unsafe at

the time to eat it. It would be like starting a religion with the rules of today, and in 2,000 years' time people still saying, "Verily thou shall not partake of English beef on the bone, for the cow's moo is the moo of the devii...'

Instead, I asked Marie-Anne what would happen if she failed

to convert me "Phoooo," she said, nodding her head and pulling a face like a car mechanic about to tell you the whole gearbox has to come out, "Then I'm afraid it's Hell."

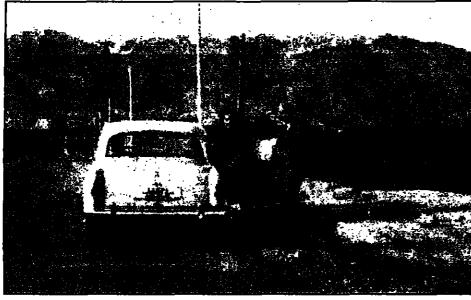
"What, for ever?" I asked.
"I'm airaid so," she said. sympathetically. Then she added, "You see, God might be lenient on souls who have never heard His word. But you've been here now, so for you still not to believe means you've rejected Him."

"Blimey." I said, "So now I'm in an even worse state than before." She giggled a bit and said "I'm airaid so" again. Then she prayed for me. But does Marie-Anne really

believe it? I'm not sure. Becau if you did believe that, you wouldn't inform someone they were going to burn in molten damnation for all eternity by giggling and going "I'm alraid so". But if she's right, I'm going to find Saint Peter bureaucratically carrying on with his paperwork and signalling the bouncers to take me away. while I blubber, "Look, check your records. I only went to do an article for the

Independent newspaper.

My father, the revolutionary



Iran's revolution 20 years ago sparked hopes of democracy for many exiles. But their dreams of return were soon destroyed. By Darius Sanai

was lying in bed at home in north London, pretendorder to miss a maths test, when my father came bursting into the room. "The revolution – it's happening!" he exclaimed. "We can go back. We can go back to Iran!"

He told me he had been offered a post in the government led by Shahour Bakhtiar. a liberal politician appointed by the Shah to keep the Ayatollah Khomeini from taking over Dr Bakhtiar wanted my father to be either a minister or an adviser on education, which was his passion. I told my the Ayatollah announced his schoolfriends that I would soon be leaving for Tehran.

For the rest of that week. I came home every day from realised by the look on my school and sat on my father's World Service reports from

Bakhtiar's government. On his return from exile in France, the Ayatollah had been greeted by ing to be ill in 2 million people. Friends in Iran told of mobs shouting "Death to America", attacking anyone wearing Western clothes. The new government

> In the evenings, my father was constantly on the phone to friends and relatives in Iran. By the end of the week, I kept hearing the same, doleful snatches of conversation. "So is it really getting that bad? You think Bakhtiar's going to go? You really think he has no chance?"

A couple of days after that, own government. The following day, 20 years ago next Wednesday, Dr Bakhtiar resigned. I father's face that we were

sofa as we listened to BBC never going back to Iran. Almost every member of Dr Tehran. There were massive Bakhtiar's short-lived govern-

demonstrations against Dr ment and the establishment that supported it were hunted into exile. Several have been assassinated. Some of those who fled have been attacked, or have lived their lives under permanent guard from police and private detectives.

My father did not set foot ever again in the land he loved, was virtually powerless and the memories I had of Iran when I was 10 are the same ones I carry with me now; faded and yellowing like a series of snapshots in an album. We moved to London when

I was two, and we went to Iran on holiday every year before the revolution. I remember walking across central Tehran with my father to get a haircut at a barber's shop where they served us black tea and sweet biscuits. My father chatted with the barber for an hour about the Shah and why he had to go before democracy could come to Iran.

I remember the craggy,



The Ayatollah Khomeini was greeted by two million people on his return to Iran from France 20 years ago today (above); for Mahmoud Sanai, pictured top left on the outskirts of Tehran with his daughters, it spelt the end of his dream to return to the land of his birth Main photo: AP

Gholam-Hossein. He was my father's servant in our house. and had been for 20 years. He and his family lived in three rooms on the ground floor, and their living-room was piled high with Persian carpets smelling of mothballs and tea. I used to play football in the courtyard every day with Gholam-Hossein's three beautiful teenage daughters, Sedigheh, Tahereh and Assam. When Khomeini stubbly, intelligent face of took over, my father comforted

us with the fact that people like spent his life persecuted and Gholam-Hossein might be running the country.

After the revolution, I would climb up every evening to my father's study at the top of the house and draw pictures at his desk while he sat with his head in his hands, listening to the World Service. Often, the Ayatollah's voice would boom out. urging the people on to greater sacrifice. There would be news of the latest politicians who had been executed or exiled.

At my parents' dinner parties, the conversation, always in Farsi, revolved around the word engheloab - revolution. Among my parents it wasn't a dirty word, as it was in some Iranian expatriate households, but it was always said with a sense of wistfulness and

incomprehension. There's a Farsi expression Eh vaah, which means roughly "Oh my God". I didn't hear the details of many of the conversations, but numerous times I heard my parents and their friends mutter the name of a family acquaintance, shake their heads and say, Eh Vooh, again and again. If I asked, they said it meant this person was in trouble in Iran - murdered or disappeared. Our house was taken over, our car taken away.

One spring day in 1981, I was on holiday with my father in Paris when he said we were going to Montparnasse to have unch with Dr Bakhtiar, by then living in exile in constant fear for his life. My memories are of a quiet, kindly-looking man, picking at his steak frites in a café, looking as if there were nothing left in the world for him. As well he might, a man who

a cardiac arrest and dying in continually jailed by the Shah, only to find himself labelled a September 1985. traitor by the Ayatollah and chased from his country. I remember my father berating him about education, his pet subject. Dr Bakhtiar left us

After six years of worrying, stress, depression and constant smoking, sitting in his study in north London and agonising over the latest news from Iran, my father had a stroke. He lay for months in the

Royal Free hospital, unable to speak or write, before suffering

with a sad smile, preoccupied,

him. Unlike some Iranians, he hadn't smuggled huge sums of money out of the country. Until the day he died, I think he was depressed by the fact that his

Life as an exile never suited

children would never have the chance to go back to Iran. His idea was for us to be educated here, and then to go and live there "when democracy came". An Iranian nationalist, he could never understand why his son and daughters preferred listening to The Clash to reading Hafez, one of the Persian lyrical



Darius Sanai (far right) and sisters Maryam and Leyla on holiday in Iran in the summer of 1975

In 1991, an Iranian visitor bluffed his way past the security guard at the entrance to Dr Bakhtiar's apartment in Paris, and stabbed him to death. He cut off Bakhtiar's hand as a sou-

venir, and escaped. I still haven't been back to Iran. Things have changed a lot since the early days of the revolution. I have cousins and friends who go back and forth from Tehran all the time. Some of them have lived in London or LA all their lives and tell me Tehran is now a much livelier place. The latest regime is relatively liberal, and they are keen for Western-educated Iranians to come home.

I would love to go home: to see the great mosques at Esfahan; the ruins at Persepolis; the mountain town of Hamadan where my father was born. In the Behesht-e-Zehr cemetery, in the poor part of south Tehran, lie the bodies of hundreds of thousands of young Iranian men killed in the war with Iraq, many of them used as "human shields" on Saddam Hussein's minefields. They all have names like mine, looked like me, and were born at around the same time. Part of me cannot stop thinking that my idea of Iran died with my father; that it is really a sort of fictional place from childhood, like Namia.

The reality is somewhat harsher. If I were to go back, I would be drafted into the Iranian army to do military service. Like millions of the people of my country, the Iranian diaspora which is scattered across the world from Stockholm to LA, I shall remain an exile for quite a while longer.

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SCIENCE

Invasion of the killer bees?

Scientists fear that imported bees from New Zealand carry a virus which could kill the native insect. By Jeremy Cherfas

buzz of anxious anticipation has descended on the rarefied world of British beekeeping. The Government is expected to rule within the next few weeks on whether to allow the import of several thousand worker bees from New Zealand. Some beekeepers believe the immigrants will revitalise British hives, but scientists are warning that they could introduce native

honeybees to a deadly new disease. The bees of New Zealand are noted for their docile nature - a definite plus for beekeepers - but almost all of them are infected with Kashmir bee virus (KBV). Although it causes few problems down under, experts in insect virology suspect that the virus could be lethal to British bees if it should ever gain a foothold here.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Maff) now has to decide whether to give Geoffrey Munro, of Park Beekeeping Supplies, permission to import the

Before 1992, there were two or three other bee viruses in Britain which seemed to have no effect on the hives that were infected with them. Then came varroa, a tiny mite that feeds on bees and bee larvae in their honeycomb cells. The mites probably arrived as a result of beekeepers trading queens illicitly. The first few were found in the South-west, but since then they have travelled inexorably across the country and can now be found everywhere in England and Wales.

Varroa clings to adult bees and hitches rides from colony to colony, but in its normal host, the eastern (or Asian) hive bee, the mite is harmless - beekeepers find it, but there aren't many mites and the keepers certainly don't worry about them. However, when varroa jumps across to honeybees, it devastates hives.

To begin with, beekeepers thought it was the mite itself that damaged the developing bees. But the latest research by scientists at the Institute for Arable Crops Research in Rothamsted has shown that varroa is just a trigger for something far more sinister. Varroa alone has "no significant effect, says Dr Norman Carreck, six commissioned in 1989 that the importof Rothamsted, it does not affect either the maturation of larvae into workers or the a real risk of also importing KBV". life span of those workers. But varroa can activate viruses that normally lie dormant in the bees and, once awoken, a virus can multiply, kill the entire hive and spread to

There are still plenty of unknowns in the story. Not all bees carry viruses. Disease persists as an invisible infection in only a few individuals. "Something in the mite's saliva goes into the bee and interferes with its immune system, which allows the virus to multiply." Carreck explains. Active virus is then spread by varroa, often towards the end of the summer when there are many worker bees but not many larvae, so each bee has many mites biting it. As a result, hives fail to survive till spring, which is when the bees are most valuable to pollinate crops. This is why New Zealand

New Zealand's autumn, when the hives are at their biggest and can easily be split. is our spring, when beekeepers, especially those who have lost hives to varroatriggered disease, need new queens to establish new colonies. Thus there is a powerful economic incentive to import bees from New Zealand - exactly what Geoffrey Munro wants to do. Mr Munro acknowledges that New Zealand bees have KBV. But he insists that "it can't even be called a problem. It has no symptoms, no loss of bees, no real effect".

That is not the view of Dr Brenda Ball, senior scientist at Rothamsted. KBV "is the most virulent virus of bees known", she says. "Only about 100 particles of virus are required for infection and its rapid replication rate leads to death within three days."

Mr Munro points out that New Zealand maintains healthy colonies that show no signs of disease caused by KBV, but the essential difference is that New Zealand also lacks varroa.

"Before the arrival of varroa," Dr Ball says, two of the three bee viruses in Britain "had never been found to be responsible for bee mortality in nature". The danger is not that KBV will cause disease on its own, but that varroa will activate KBV and spread it through British hives. In the United States, where bees have varroa and KBV, scientists recently reported the first case of KBV killing a colony - which was also infested by varroa.

Maff has asked interested parties to comment on Mr Munro's application to import packages of New Zealand bees. Dr Ball has told Maff bluntly that "it would be undesirable to risk" the introduction of KBV. Mr Munro says KBV will "cause no practical or scientific problem at all." The ministry has also asked for a risk assessment from its National Bee Unit in York, despite having been told by a more extensive study ation of ... bees from New Zealand poses

Mr Munro claims that a UK ban on imports of bees from New Zealand would fall foul of the World Trade Organisation. But within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) there is an agreement that allows a country to restrict trade to safeguard human, animal or plant health, although not to protect domestic agriculture from imports. Ironically, it is just such restrictions on trade that have enabled New Zealand to build up its healthy honeybee industry, no live bees have been allowed into New Zealand for the past 40 years.



Honey trap: New Zealand bees carry a virus which could kill off healthy British hives

Dr Ball reckons that is not a good enough reason to run the risk of introducing a disease new to Britain. She points out that when it first arrived, varroa did kill many colonies, but as beekeepers learned to mitigate its effects and control the infection, losses declined. Today, it is manageable. A few beekeepers, however, seem to regard stocks as expendable. They would blame is anybody's guess. When varroa prefer to buy in replacements rather than turned up in April 1992, the ministry cre-

take care to look after their hives.

Adrian Waring, general secretary of the British Bee-Keepers Association, says that the vast bulk of British beekeepers want nothing to do with New Zealand queens. He has no great confidence in Maff's ability to protect British bees, but whether Maff or beekeepers are more to

The UK needs to import New Zealand improve their husbandry, even though ated a Statutory Infected Area, supposed bees to replace colonies that have died, but those imports threaten beekeepers who to restrict the movement of infected bees. to restrict the movement of infected bees. Though they told the beekeepers, they couldn't tell the bees, and each year the area has had to be enlarged. By 1997, it cov-

Planet Earth Pictures

ered the whole of England and Wales. Maff now has a chance to prevent the entry of KBV, but Waring is not optimistic. "Ten thousand of my members versus a single request from an individual," he says. "You'd have thought by now that we would have learnt a bit of a lesson."

UPDATE

THE STARDUST mission to bring back samples of contettey dust to Earth is due to blast off tomorrow from the Kennedy Spacetlight Center in Florida. Scientists hope the material collected from Come: Wild-2's tail will tell them more about the elements that existen at the birth of the Solar System nearly five billion years ago. Other scientists, notably Chandra Wickramasinghe of Cardet University, hope the mission in., ht also bring back evidence e: extraterrestial life. He, along with Sir Fred Hoyle, one of the an atest British cosmologists, proposed: nearly 20 years ago that microbes from outer space may have "seeded" the Earth about 4 hillion years ago to provide the spark or evolution. They were ridicaled then but now scientists are treated them. ideas more seriously, having observed organic molecules at cometary material.

Meanwhile, Professor Wickramasinghe is collaborating with scientists from the Indian Space Research Organisation to the a series of balloons into the stratosphere later this year to suck up samples of air that could contain evidence of cometary microbas

A STUDY of last year's World Cup has identified the part of the pitch where football matches are won and lost. Scientists have found that it is the "D" zone on the edge of the penalty area, "It's the critical area of the pitch for exploitation of any creative action, and the springboard for true penetration of the defensive line," Tom Reilly of the Research Institute for Sport and Exercise Sciences at Liverpool University. told New Scientist. The study analysed 24 matches and found that successful teams made much greater use of the zone just outside their opponent's negalty area. Successful teams made on average 25 passes from the zone, compared with just 15 passes by losing sides.

A THINNING ozone layer could have greater impact on agriculture than anticipated from conventional views on the mutation rates of plants caused by ultraviolet radiation. As plants rely on sunshine they are exposed to high levels of UV light but they have an internal sunscreen to limit the damage it might cause to DNA. Virginia Walbot of Stanford University in California reports in Nature that exposure of maize plants to UV light not only damages DNA but activites dormant parts of the genetic material which increase the rate of mutation. She warns that a thinning ozone layer, and corresponding increase in UV could unleash a sustained increase in mutation rate of important crops. STEVE CONNOR

STARS AND PLANETS: FEBRUARY

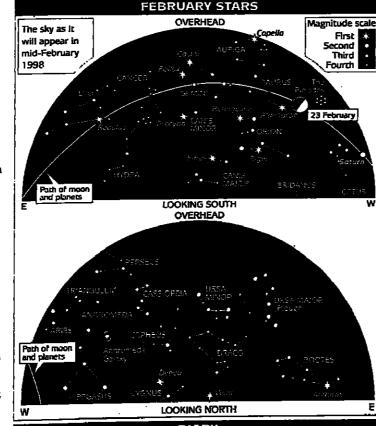
FOR THE last 20 years, we have encouraged our readers to pose their friends an astronomical trick question: "What's the outermost planet of the Solar System?" The answer has been Neptune. But don't try that one any more. From next Thursday (11 February), the answer will in fact be the obvious

Pluto takes 248 years to go once around the Sun, and for 228 years of that time it certainly lies farther away than Neptune. But Pluto's oval orbit brings it closer to the Sun than Neptune for 20 years in every revolution - and that's been the case since 1979.
This month, Pluto moves back

beyond Neptune, to regain its title as most distant planet. There's no danger of a collision, though, because Neptune lies in a different part of its orbit. Indeed, because Neptune goes around its orbit exactly three times for every two orbits of Pluto, the two planets are a safe distance apart every time that Pluto crosses Neptune's path. That's just as well, because Pluto is so small that even a near miss would be disastrous, with giant Neptune's gravity flinging Pluto out of the Solar System altogether.

Pluto is, so far, the only planet that hasn't been scrutinised by a space probe. Nasa has plans for a Pluto Express mission, designed to study Pluto and its big moon Charon at close quarters. It's a bit of a race against time, though. As Pluto moves away from the Sun, it is cooling down. Its thin atmosphere is starting to freeze on to its frosty surface. And if Pluto has "ice volcanoes" - similar to those that the Voyager 2 spacecraft discovered on Neptune's big moon Triton - these will turn off as the Sun's heat diminishes.

According to Alan Stern, of the Southwestern Research Institute in



^{2.43} am Boulder, Colorado, the Pluto Express mission will carry on to explore some of the dozens of

smaller "ice dwarf" worlds that

astronomers have recently discovered beyond Pluto. The discovery has opened a debate on whether Pluto is really a "planet" at all. It is far smaller than any other planet, and some astronomers say it should be

DIARY

moon at last quarter Pluto becomes outermost planet 8 February new moon; annular eclipse of the sun, Australia demoted to being merely the

largest of the ice dwarfs. But Stern turns this argument on its head. He believes that the ice dwarfs are only the smaller denizens of a region that must contain much larger worlds - more planets of our Solar System, perhaps even the same size as the Earth. If and when these frozen earths are discovered. Pluto will

permanently lose its title as most distant planet.

WHAT'S UP: Venus is becoming more and more prominent in the west after sunset, as a brilliant "Evening Star", though it doesn't appear on the chart because it sets before 22.00. To its upper left is the second-brightest planet, Jupiter, which is now slipping down into the sunset glow.

There will be a spectacular sight on the evening of 23 February, as these two planets graze past one another. They will be little more than a one-tenth of a degree apart - about a quarter of the Moon's width. With binoculars or a small telescope, you'll see both planets in the same field of view, Jupiter with its family of four prominent moons.

At the end of the month, Jupiter lies near Mercury, to the lower right of Venus in the evening twilight glow. Throughout February, Saturn lies to the left of Jupiter, with Mars rising in the east around midnight.

The lack of a full moon on the sky chart is no mistake. January had two full moons, the second of which was on 31 January, and the next is due on 2 March.

New moon falls on 16 February: as seen from a narrow band across Australia, it appears right in front of the Sun. The resulting eclipse, however, is not total. Because we are currently near the Earth's closest point to the Sun, the Sun appears larger than the Moon, and the ring of the sun's surface will be visible all around the Moon's silhouette. This is an annular eclipse, named after the Latin 'annulus" for "ring".

A partial eclipse will be visible from South Africa, the Indian Ocean and the whole of Australasia. HEATHER COUPER AND NIGEL HENBEST



40 Weekends in New York to be won with

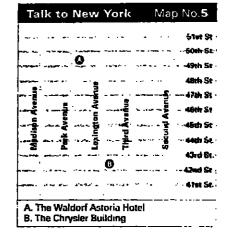
Talk Radio and The Independent are flying 40 pairs of winners to New York for a weekend in March in our 'Talk to New York' Competition. Throughout February there are 2 New York Weekends to be won every weekday.

How to Play Tune to Talk Radio and listen for the Avenue and Street No.s for one of today's two locations, identify it on the map opposite and you could be a winner.

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talk racio

XTHE INDEPENDENT

Previous schemes may have failed, but this time nothing is going to stop Bath re-emerging as a spa town. By Nonie Niesewand

Full steam ahead

good progress with its plans to convert the fourth-biggest tourist attraction in Britain back into a spa town, but not one that Jane Austen would have recognised.

Two years ago, Bath Council, eager to rejuvenate the parched spa and stop the town from turning towards the new spa project." into a museum set-piece, applied to the Millennium Commission for lottery money to restore and convert D Woods's hot baths, built in 1775, and the Grade I listed Cross Baths, and construct a contemporary spa.

"In 20 years there have been five schemes to revive Bath as a spa town. All failed, because they were

'If the worst happens, we can always put it together again, this time without an asbestos roof'

ton respectful of the classical ouildings. You can't run a health .ydro in an out-of-date building," says councillor Paul Simons.

They got 95.8m to replace a Twenies neoclassical stone-clad derelict pool building with a glass-and-steel cube-within-a-cube by Nicholas yellow classical package, the Grimshaw. The Millennium Com-challenge of his career. mission also threw in half a million pounds for scientific research for 'iydro-geologists after Bath Council persuaded them that quarrying in he Mendips and the need for needed protection. But their application for art in a public space was turned down, so the Royal Society of Arts stepped in with £6,500 to get the Vietnamese artist Vong Phaophanit to explore artistic collaboration with architecture.

Vong Phaophanit filled the Tate with rice when he scooped the Turner Prize four years ago. Now he plans to irrigate the historic streets of Bath with water. Jets of water on the hour, every bour, in summer will rise from Bath Street, which links he Roman baths to the spa waters: n winter, jets of steam will create an erie mist. How this project is ikely to affect the traffic is unclear.

JEW: Divis

(7.30

A #NT A (5.0 A v W.

ath Council is making although the council would ideally like to close the street to cars. Mr Simons does not see this as controversial. "When you look at the things [Phaophanit]'s done with light in particular, and applied to water and transparency, you dis-cover interesting conceptual ideas that will link the main thoroughfare

Phaophanit's last public-art installation, a 14m-long wall of crimson glass built at the Thames four listed buildings, including John Barrier, was shattered by vandals and had to be dismantled just a month after completion.

"I was pained by that experience." Vong says, choosing his words carefully. "The engineers, the builders, all worked so hard; it was an intense experience. But it taught me that artists cannot solve racial or economic problems in a deprived region. Their artistic input should be accompanied by other, much larger programmes."

Bath will not be Phaophanit's first water sculpture. In 1986 he filled a gallery in Aix-en-Provence (which is, coincidentally, twinned with Bath) with hundreds of little plastic freezer-bags of water, all at different depths, to catch the natural light from the windows and the artificial light in the dimmed core. The sparkling, iridescent installation, coloured like a rainbow in prisms of light, was highly acclaimed.

"European cities all have great fountains. This is a very good opportunity," says Mr Simons.

For Nick Grimshaw, Bath represents, in one stone-clad mellowed

Grimshaw likes to give his monumental buildings transparent membranes. Look at the elegant, sinuous Waterloo Terminal snaking through south London like a train. which the printing presses can be seen. When he designed the British pavilion at the 1992 Expo in Seville, the façade was a wall of water by the sculptor William Pye, an idea he wanted to transplant to Bath to heat the building with thermal springs. So the proposed entrance to his hydro will be glass set behind stone columns, and his Turkish steam baths, four glass cubicles shrouded in mist, are pierced with light through holes in a stone cladding in the manner of an Arabic latticed screen.

Rather boldly, and some say overconfidently, Bath Council have demolished the Beau Street baths,



Demolition work at Beau Street baths where Bath Council wants to build Nicholas Grimshaw's glass and steel cube-within-a-cube to create a contemporary spa, below left. Below right, an artist's impression of Vong Phaophanit's water installation for Bath Street, where jets of water and steam will transform the streetscape

clear the site for the building. Normally you don't pull down anything until permission is granted for what Millennium Commission projects to open is 31 December 2001, and the

designed by AJ Taylor in 1925-27, to building, nothing much architecturally and not listed, but none the less on a World Heritage Site, for which no application for planning is to replace it, but the deadline for permission had been made. "If the worst happens we can always put it Council had to get archaeological asbestos roof," says Peter Carey work under way on site. So they from Donald Insall, the conservation pulled down a respectful little stone architects with Grimshaws.

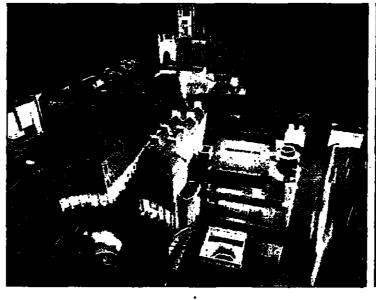
Grimshaw had to alter the scheme after consultation with English Heritage, which raised questions of scale and proportion, and with the Royal Fine Arts Commission, which reminded the together again, this time without an architects of Bath's "Roman resonance". But the fundamental concept of the glass cube within a stone-clad cube remains.

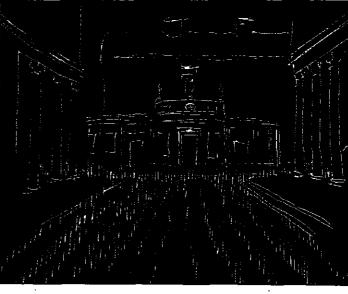
Bath Spa is a microcosm of the flawed practice of matched funding for Millennium projects - lottery funding put into place by the Millennium Commission. First the project was estimated to cost £13m but it escalated to £16.8m. So they were given lottery funding of £6.8m and £3m from the Dutch operators of the spa, and the Council con-

tributed £3m, including the cost of the land, and raised £600,000 from selling off five-year membership of the spa, and other stunts. But they still need another £1m. Fast.

The Dutch operator, not unnaturally, has taken a keen interest in how his commercial project will work. So has the client, Bath Council. Nick Grimshaw has downsized floor-toceiling heights, even as he managed to withstand the request for Seventies-style saunas to be installed. He has lowered the roof line and dug down below ground in two major reby English Heritage's comments, the Dutch investor's commercial needs the blue-plaque brigade and various archaeologists, Grimshaw has responded fluently and with fluidity in retaining the original concept. It still looks like the handsome building that he first presented.

As the archaeologists on the demolition site went below Roman levels, they found proof that the site had been inhabited since 5000BC. They also found early medieval layers, and some bath structures of the 18th century. And at the back of the 19th-century John Woods Hot Bath. they even found a hot-water tank built on a Roman hypocaust system.





I'll wear my art on my sleeve

You may never be rich enough to buy a masterpiece, but aesthetically inspired accessories offer affordable artistic souvenirs. By Rosemary Hill



Madame Moitessier would say. Ingres' heavy-lidded beauwho looks out so impassive from the cover of the National Gallery catalogue, might raise an eyebrow if she knew that she was also available in the exhibition shop as a cut-out paper doll, to be "undressed down the underwear".

The marketing of masterpieces gets ever more far-fetched. But for those in search of a more subtle tribute to the style of the Second Empire, Janet Fitch's jewellery shops are offering a range of modern designs "in the spirit of "Ingres.

They include garnet and amethyst rings, strings of trailing beads and a iramatic jet tiara. Some of the pieces in copper wirework give a nod towards the details of 19th-century costume. There are bracelets like cuffs and a lacy, beaded choker that evokes the ruff on the chemise worn by



sat for Ingres in Rome.

None of the Fitch pieces actually looks much like the jewels in the paintings. They are in the same spirit chiefly in being striking statements of the wearer's personality. Ingres took great care with his sitters' dress and accessories. He used them eloquently to express the unmentionable-but-obvious themes of so many of the portraits: money and sex. "Bring

... your bracelets and the long pearl necklace," he told Marie-Clotilde-Ines Moitessier as he Marie Marcoz, the

was planning her picture. In the end he painted her twice, and the preparatory drawings show him trying out the effects of various pieces, moving them from one portrait to the other.

Most of what he painted was not only valuable, but also fashionable. He rejected one of Mme Moitessier's brooches on the grounds that it was out of date. His sitters were not, for the most part, wearing their family jewels, simply because they were not in a position to. Instead, the smart set of the Second Empire were among the earliest patrons of costume jewellery in the modern sense, pieces valued for their design as much as - or more than - the intrinsic cost of the materials.

Theirs was the age of stylistic revivals. Among the traditional cabochon-cut stones and ropes of pearls, items designed in the Renaissance and Byzantine styles were starting to appear. The Princess Broglie, for example, wore an "early Christian" pendant made by the most innovative contemporary jeweller, Fortunato Castellani. Its deliberate irregularity bespeaks a somewhat daring

taste for the primitive. Perhaps not many of Janet

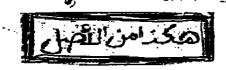
achieve the "seductive disorder of shimmering fabrics and jewels of a thousand colours" that Ingres' contemporaries admired in his work. But the portraits offer an ideal, made real in paint. The souvenirs promise

a little bit of that to take away. It is the paradox of mer-chandising that while people come to see art because it is rare and valuable, they want to go home with something easy and affordable, Hence the terrible bathos of the average British exhibition shop. The Victoria and Albert museum which as the National Museum of design should know better shows a relentless determination to plaster everyone from

William Morris to Aubrey Beardsley on to a coffee mug.

By comparison, the National Gallery has served Ingres and the public well. There is a silk scarf based on Mme Leblanc's Indian shawl and another like the Lyons silk of Mme Moitessier's dress. But then there are the cut-out dolls it is hard to believe that anyone who appreciates Ingres won't wince at these poorly drawn figures. Janet Fitch's jewellery may not have much to





rings and

No cachet in a Gachet

Van Gogh's artistic output in the last few months of his life was huge. Impossibly so, say some scholars. Are some of them fakes painted by his doctor? An exhibition in Paris has re-opened the controversy. By John Lichfield

n the last 70 days of his life, Vincent Van Gogh produced 70 paintings. There are several theories about this final star-burst of creativity, which generated many of the canvases for which he is best remembered (The Church at Auvers; The Cornfield).

Was it an explosion of nervous and artistic energy after his release from hospital, following the auto-amputation of his ear? Was it a frantic and tragic attempt to paint as much as he could before he lost the strug-gle with depression, which led to his botched suicide and slow death in July 1890?

In the past two years, several art journalists and scholars have revived another explanation for Van Gogh's extraordinary production during the final 10 weeks of his life in Auvers-sur-Oise, north-west of Paris: he didn't paint them all. Several of the Auvers paintings, they suggest, are fakes, painted, most probably, by Dr Paul Gachet, his doctor, sometime friend and the subject of two of the Auvers canvases.

The claims and counter-claims about the authenticity of at least four of the works (including one of the Gachet portraits) have already led to two court cases in France and a series of mutually insulting articles by some of the best-known names in Parisian art criticism.

An exhibition which opened at the Grand Palais in the capital this week claims to prove, scientifically, that all of the Auvers works are genuine and seeks to lay the controversy to rest. But there is small hope of that. The show has simply ignited another series of blasts and counter-blasts.

Supporters of the "Gachet fake" theory accuse the French museums service of mounting a self-serving exhibition, intended to whitewash (as it were) the doubts surrounding several Van Gogh canvases owned by the French state (as well as a couple of Cézannnes). The experts in the museums service dismiss the critics as amateurs, who refuse to allow scientific proof to disturb their pet theories, which they have erected from false intuitions and circumstantial evidence.

In other words, the show has become Exhibit A in a legal and art-political argument, as well as an exhibition. No matter. It is a fascinating show, as well as a fascinating

argument and a fascinating story. Dr Gachet was a railway doctor, friends, including seven Van Goghs, a self-declared specialist in nervous three Cézannes, a Monet, a Renoir problems, but also an amateur and several Pissarros. They were artist, who befriended several of eventually donated to the French the painters of the day (Cézanne, Pissarro, Monet, Renoir). It was Pissarro who recommended to Van bled Vincent should be sent to live Alongside them hang other works near Dr Gachet in Auvers after he by Van Gogh and Cézanne and



Fake accompli? The undisputed 'Portrait of Dr Gachet' by Van Gogh

emerged from hospital in May 1890. many original paintings and self-de-The painter and the art-struck clared copies carried out by both Dr doctor got on well at first but Van Gachet and his son, under the pseudonyms Paul and Louis Van Ryssel. Gogh began to have his doubts, writing to his brother that Gachet was

But which are the Van Ryssels "sicker than me. When the blind and which are the Van Goghs? The lead the blind, don't they both fall in show has been put together by the the ditch?". This letter and Gachet's chief curator at the Musée d'Orsay, unusual behaviour after Van Gogh Anne Distel, and Louis Van Tilborgh shot himself -- he failed to remove of the Van Gogh Foundation in the bullet and, in effect, left him to Amsterdam. By hanging the Van die – have led some historians to Goghs and the Van Ryssels (Gachets) side by side, the curators blame the eccentric doctor for the hope to prove the first part of their Gachet assembled a large colargument. The disputed pictures lection of works by his painter especially the "second" portrait of Dr Gachet - may be below the the French miseums directorate. quality of the artist's best work but are infinitely superior to anything

attempted by the doctor or his son. Furthermore, the curators say, both the Van Goghs and the known Gachet paintings have been sub-Gogh's brother, Theo, that the trou- in the Grand Palais exhibition. jected to 12 months of the most minute and rigorous chemical and X-ray analysis. These investiga-

amateurish, Gachets always drew the outlines of their subjects and filled in the colours later, like a child painting by numbers. The disputed Van Goghs and Cézannes were not painted in this way. They were painted directly on to the canvas.

"The X-rays showed no signs of touching up. It showed a strong firm two unimpeachable Van Goghs line in Van Gogh's manner and a The Church at Auvers and a self-background filled in with large portrait - close to the disputed brushstrokes, crossing over one another as in most of his paintings," reported Danièle Giraudy, head of less, clumsy, soulless composition". the contemporary arts laboratory at

Convincing proof? Not in the least, say the doubters. "The star canvas of the exhibition (the portrait of Dr Gachet] is a cuckoo's egg," said Benoit Landais, the French art And on. critic and Van Gogh specialist. He points to the letters sent by Van Goeh to his prother in June and July 1890, which gave detailed accounts

tions reveal that the amateur, and of all his work in Auvers but made used cheap materials in his Auvers no mention of a second portrait of the doctor. M Landais says that the painting is manifestly a fake, probably copied from a photograph of the original. Another French critic, Jean-

...and the second unsigned and unauthenticated version

Marie Tasset, says the exhibition shoots itself in the foot. By hanging painting, they have exposed the "second" Gachet portrait as "a life-On the contrary says Mr Tilborgh of the Amsterdam Van Gogh Foundation, the portrait is a "moving work", well beyond the capacity of either of the Gachets...

And so the argument goes on. Along the way, the research by the French museums' laboratories has proved something which has

long been suspected. Van Gogh

on red. In that sense, all these later Van Goghs are "fakes": in the sense that they are not what the painter intended. The foxgloves grasped in Dr Gachet's hand in the "first", undis-

period and some of the colours in

his later canvases have faded or

changed, especially those based

puted portrait have altered colour from mauve to blue. Curiously, exactly the same change has occurred in the second, disputed painting. If Dr Gachet faked this paints as Van Gogh? This seems unlikely because in all the accepted Gachets, he is known to have used higher-quality materials. Is the "cuckoo's egg" a discoloured Van Gogh after all?

A Friend of Cézanne and Van Gogh, Doctor Gachet 1828-1909, at the Grand Palais until 26 April

Deleted poets society

READING OXFORD POETS FREUD OXFORD

AT A café-bar in a reconditioned church, a motley crew met to protest an act of vandalism across the road, where stands a publishing house unconvincingly disguised as an Oxford college. The principal conspirators gathered behind a barricade of Czech beer bottles in the gloom of the apse, and took turns to say their piece to a spotlit microphone where the altar used to be.

The rabble-rousers? Two dozen distinguished poets. The enemy? The Oxford University Press. And the cause? A management decision, taken in November last year, to junk the OUP's entire modern poetry list. The publisher of the world's most weighty dictionary says that it can no longer bear the annual cost of bringing out some eight or nine slim volumes of verse.

The outcast poets, and their many friends, begged to disagree. Fleur Adcock set the tone with a specially written piece of doggerel. "This is your publisher speaking". It began: "We're coming in with the bulldozers..." A petition was passed around as Jon Stallworthy founder-editor of the Oxford Poets list - sermonised about the great betrayal. The assembly signed an oath condemning "an act of desecration against the humanity and literary traditions of Oxford University"

They applauded a procession of laureates-in-waiting - the piratical Charles Tomlinson, the Bismarckian James Fenton, the ever-startled Craig Raine, and even Tom Paulin, the heart-throb of late-night television. "Reds. addicts, all delinquents!" So went Basil Bunting's poem about poets, read by Sean O'Brien. More verse unfurled, some of it very fine. David Harsent offered a fragment called "Marriage" from his latest work, and also read a translation of the Bosnian poet Goran Simic. who e-mailed his solidarity from Toronto. But this was, first and foremost, a domestic evening, and its politics were narrowly focused.

Fittingly, the greatest round of poet called Alan Howarth. He is now Minister for the Arts, but that didn't stop him from taking sides. He put the boot firmly into OUP's groin: "The custodians of the English language are abandoning those that help to shape it." The heavy hitters are coming out for the poets. Will OUP back down?

WILLIAM GREEN

東山 はいまける 古典 ない

The importance of being truly evil

FACED WITH a double bill of ghostly chillers called Darkness Falls, I'm the sort of person who anticipates an evening that would be better entitled "Boredom Descends". Pm haunted enough aiready, thank you very much. So Jonathan two creepy one-acters at the Palace Theatre, Watford, came as a very pleasant surprise.

Proceedings kick off with (vo) WW Jacobs' classic 1902 short story, The Monkey's Paw, updated to the 1940s among those bereaved by the Second World War. After the interval is The Dark, an original play by Holloway with a contemporary setting, though it shares a remote Northumbrian locale with the Jacobs, and a preoccupation with the rash deals we make with the supernatural.

THEATRE DARKNESS FALLS

state by his son between 1949 and

1954. Almost all now belong to the

Musée d'Orsay and almost all are

PALACE THEATRE WATFORD

At the start of the former, you find yourself irresistibly Holloway's piquant pairing of reminded of the spoof murder mystery in Stoppard's The Real Inspector Hound. The howling wind the heavy emphasis on the lonely inaccessibility of this working-class cottage, the deathless dialogue ("He fought his way across Burma, I think he can manage to get to us," declares Father of their tardy ex-soldier guest), and the seemingly brainless wife bustling about her domestic chores - all these seem to have roughly the same relation to real terror as "Acorn Antiques" does to "The Spoils of Poynton".

Tim Etchells, has put a lyrical

girdle round the earth. Seated

on a makeshift proscenium

stage, a man (Robin Arthur) and

a woman (Cathy Naden), talk at

us in an earnest monotone

while behind them another

woman (Claire Marshall) oper-

ates the sound, a loop of melan-

choly piano music. Some of the

lines are intriguing, some mild-

But it's a calculated gamble on the part of director Giles Croft that pays off handsomely, making the subsequent stealthy escalation into authentic horror all the more powerful. From plucky cipher, Suzy, Aitchison's wife, suddenly deepens into a desperately distraught mother and the play, with its eponymous charm twisting like a snake in the hands of those who seek to profit by it, becomes a sinister study in the treacherous ambiguity of our deepest wishes. Those final blows on the door resonate in the nerves for a long time afterwards.

A dramatisation of The Monkey's Paw is being announced on the radio at the start of The Dork, a droll touch that has the effect of underlining the inferiority of the latter as ghostly



that, whereas the shockingness of the Jacobs is properly dramatised and mounts till the final, last-second twist, The Dark theorises about its themes and renders them diffuse. It is set on

drama. Part of the trouble is New Year's Eve at the annual party where Simian Black (Philip Bretherton), a silkenly pervy ex-Cambridge don, entertains favoured former pupils. Short of swanning

declares: "Hi, I'm Mephistopheles, fly me!", it is hard to see how either play or performance could signal the function of this character louder or earlier.

The cat-and-mouse conversation at this sticky do crackles with baleful inventiveness - airing ideas like that of a Faust who is prepared to commit suicide rather than allow the devil to get his cloven mitts on a girlfriend. And if these fancies aren't satisfyingly subsumed into a story with drive, they certainly thicken the atmosphere of donnish diabolic depravity. A compelling evening that is also a puzzle. Can this be the same Jonathan Holloway who once staged a version of Macbeth that cut out all mention of the witches?

PAUL TAYLOR

around in a sandwich board that To 20 Feb, 01923 225671

Empty posturing, not provocative drama

IF THEY could mass-produce ventional form of a story-telling their work, Forced Entertainment could probably sell their shows abroad as instruments of torture. This Sheffield-based list of incongruous scenes: discompany has become expert in asters, suicides, wars, circus subjecting audiences to carefully engineered acts of tedium. which it passes off as provocative experiments. "All year we've been working on the notion of an absent show," they explain in the programme to Durty Work. "A performance that never really takes place." In the process, they have succeeded in reinventing the wheel and then removing its spokes.

THEATRE session, but there is no narrative thread. A fantastical play is DIRTY WORK described, consisting of a long ICA PLAYBOY stunts, romances – the writer

YOUNG VIC STUDIO

THIRTEENTH NIGHT SOUTHWARK PLAYHOUSE LONDON

tone, repetitive structure and visual austerity make every detail blur into the same grinding whole. That, presumably, is partly the point (all the world's reducible to a soundbite), but it's Dirty Work takes the con- ly amusing, but the portentous as banal as it is insupportable. tachment of the original, and

boy, a two-hander boasting the added musings of video-taped members of the public, bears certain similarities to Dirty Work in its impassive refusal to go easy on the audience. A skittish, gunslinging reflection on the controversial impact of J M Synge's The Playboy of the Western World, at one point it, too, describes a performance (a silent one: the Abbey Theatre's attempt to prevent the stage being mobbed). Here, though, the decision to present everything at one remove is relatively unforced, conveying the de-

Desperate Optimists' Play-

obliquely suggesting our ambivalence towards violence.

For those seeking more co-

gent provocation, there's Thirteenth Night, which, as its author Howard Brenton put it. "plays ducks and drakes with the plot of Macbeth". Premiered by the RSC in 1981, it was delivered as the dramatisation of "an internal row" within the Labour Party. Knocked unconscious during a scuffle with Fascists, the ruthless idealist Jack Beatty's dream of a truly Marxist government of Great Britain soon turns tyrannical. Sarah Wooley's well-executed revival re- 620 3494)

minds you how witty Brenton can be Beatty's plight crystallises a current anguish: ised socialism and cynicism about there ever being a "new social justice". It's a dirty business, party politics, but somehody's got to write about it: thank goodness Brenton did.

Dirty Work' ICA, London SW1 (0171-930 3647) to Sat; Playboy Young Vic Studio, London SE1 (0171-928 6363) to Sat; Thirteenth Night' Southwark Playhouse, London SE1 (0171-

NEW YORK TAKE OUT SKATES OFFER

[GIF - and while we're on the subject, thank God it's now officially OK to start the weekend lying on the sofa instead of lining up outside a club. So you turn on, you tune in, you snuggle up and get stuck in to the Chardonnay and you're

Enter NYTO - New York Take Out, the American take out experience from Crosse & Blackwell: honest, no-nonsense, delicious New York-style noodle takeaways in their own (we've seen-it-in-the-movies) carton. And the real treat is, you don't have to venture any further than your freezer - frozen food just got funky! Microwave for 10 minutes and - ding! - Come Out Number 73, Your Time Is Up. Forget the washing-up - you can eat your chosen New York Take Out - Chicken Chow Mein, Beef and Black Bean, Hot and Sour Chicken Chow Mein, Black Bean, Bla

After a Friday night on the sofa, we are offering 10 readers the chance to get up and go in style with a pair of top-of-the-range Bauer X-ACT in-line skates, complete with knee, arm and wrist pads, valued at £200 each. 30 lucky runners up will win a pair of 'Rookle Stix'- cheating choosticks - plus a voucher for 75p off your New York Take Out. All you have to do is to dial the number below, answer the following question on the line and leave your name, full address, daytime telephone number and your shoe size.

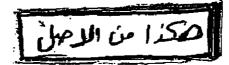


Q: New York Take Out is brought to you by which famous food name?

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Calls cost 60p per minute and should last no longer than two minutes. Winners will be picked at rendom after lines close at midnight on the 14 February 1999. Fernamber to leave your shoe size. There are no substitute prizes or cash attensitives. Normal independent rules apply. The Solitor's decision is final.

The state of the s



MUSIC

The righteous sister

Lauryn Hill is stealing hip hop back from the menace of gangsta. How? By steeping herself in the history of black female divas. It's not just about rap; it's a battle for the soul. By Barney Hoskyns

auryn Hill has a big mouth, and it sits in the middle of her tiny face as though God, in a moment of more-than-divine inspiration, had stuck the fabulous lips of Millie Jackson on the petite features of a young Diana Ross.

Which is apposite, really, because when Hill opens the mouth to rap or sing, the tough alto voice that issues forth is a lot closer to the husky come-on of Jackson - or the imploring warmth of Gladys Knight - than it is to the sugary purr of the former Supreme. In addition, there's a strident feistiness to Hill's tone that suggests she may just be the Angela Davis of hip hop - a sweet black angel in a Chevy Suburban.

A lot of words have poured out of Hill's mouth in the past six months, both in song and on the printed page. The 23-year-old mother of two from South Orange, New Jersey, has a lot to say, and ain't afraid to say it. "Every man want to act like he's exempt/ When him need to get down on his knees and repent," she admonishes on the startling "Lost Ones", first song proper on The Mise-ducation of Lawyn Hill. "Music is supposed to inspire/ How come we ain't getting no higher?" she demands to know on "Superstar". Even on the delectable "Doo Wop (That Thing)", Hill finger-wags the warning "that was the sin that did Jezebel in/ Who you gon' tell when the repercussions spin?" Easy, sister!

Amid the mass prostration that's greeted Hill's runaway megahit of an album - The Miseducation sold more copies in America in its first week than any previous album by a female artist, and is up for no less than eight Grammy awards - some dissenters have accused the girl of being preachy. Hill would probably say there was a need for preachiness in late-Nineties America: not the preachiness of the Baptist matrons who've been trying to gag hip hop for 10 years, but the rhetoric of artists who've had enough of the callous cynicism and dehumanising materialism of black pop-culture in the post-soul era. Hill, in a nutshell, is trying to lead hip hop and R&B back to the soul music she devoured after stumbling as a little girl on a dusty stash of 45s in her mother's basement.

"Black music right now is like this whole Stor Wars battle," ?uestlove of Philly hip hop band The Roots told Rolling Stone. "There are very few people on the side of art who are goin' up against the Death Star. D'Angelo is Luke Skywalker. Prince, Stevie, James, Marvin and George are our Yoda and Obi-Wan Kenobi. And, most definitely, Lauryn is Princess Leia."

Nor is it just about "soul" music. On The Miseducation, Hill rustles up soul, gospel, jazz above all, the righteous riddims of roots reggae. If there's an unseen presence behind the album, it's that of Robert Nesta Marley, whose hallowed Tuff Gong studio was the music's seedbed and whose son Rohan is the father of Hill's babies. From the rippling snare rolls and I-Threes choruses of "When It Hurts So Bad" to the "Concrete Jungle" homage that is "Forgive Them Father", The Miseducation is rooted in Marley's militant spirituality.

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Doing it for herself: whether or not the rest of The Fugees liked it

album by The Fugees, the hip hop trio in which Hill first made her musical mark. Aside from its heavenly version of "No Woman, No Cry", The Score was strewn with reggae references and shot through with a loose Caribbean-feel that sharply distinguished it from its hardcore-bynumbers predecessor, Blunted By Reality. The Score, too, was where the world heard Hill soaring her way through Roberta Flack's "Killing Me Softly With His Song", a rap-soul hybrid that lit up America and blew the cobwebs from a nant, gangsta-dominated scene.

Hill has hinted that her fellow Fugees were unhappy about her recording solo - despite having released solo albums of their own. (On "Lost Ones", a bracingly vengeful song widely presumed to be about Fugees mainman, Wyclef Jean, Hill sneers that "my emancipation don't fit your equation".) If true, it says a lot about the barriers that solo female hip hop artists are up Marley, of course, was just as central to The against - and that Hill, with The Miseducction,

Score, the brilliant and hugely successful 1996 has knocked so emphatically to the ground. Hill's role in The Fugees was radical enough: in hip hop's rigidly male milieu, no woman had ever shared equal billing with men in a group. The Peter, Paul and Mary of the Keepin' It Real school, The Fugees pushed Hill's femaleness to the foreground, not just in terms of her stunning looks but in terms of a sensibility which had long struggled to be heard in hip hop. Although fairer-sex MCs such as MC Lyte and Yo Yo had fought for their meagre slice of the turf ever since 14-year-old Roxanne Shante let loose with 1985's "Roxanne's Revenge", hip hop's female

> most young black females plumped for R&B. What makes The Miseducation such a seminal event is that it transcends the whole issue of whether women can cut it with male rappers: Hill has picked up where The Score left off and made an album whose aim is simply to shake

successes - Salt-N-Pepa, Queen Latifah - were,

by 1996, laughably outnumbered by a million -

and-one interchangeable male acts. No wonder

black America awake. In a climate dominated by sulky vixens (Monica, Brandy) and vicious ballbusters (Lil Kim, Foxy Brown), Hill rises up like Delacroix's Liberty, a tiny-princess-turned-earth-mama who wants to lead her brothers and sisters into the next millennium, "There's a battle for the souls of black folk, and just folks in general," she told Rolling Stone last month. "The music has a lot to do with that."

At the risk of hubris, Hill is presenting herself as a kind of alternative diva - what the writer Sheri Parks has termed a "lion mother of the American soul". Moreover, she is fully aware of the women who went before her. She knows about empress Bessie Smith and matriarch Ma Rainey. She's heard the gospel mothers, the Mahalia Jacksons and Sallie Martins - the piercing sorrow of "I Used To Love Him" comes direct and unfiltered from the church. A sometime Columbia University major who calls her album "my thesis/ Well-written topic/ Broken down into pieces", Hill can tell you about Nina Simone singing "Mississippi Goddam", and about Aretha singing "Young, Gifted, and Black". She's watched Janet Jackson take "Control" and Erykah Badu exhume Billie Holiday.

But Hill has also seen Latifah, the "Queen of Royal Badness", throw hip hop on the back burner and take up residence on the TV sitcom Living Single. She's seen MC Lyte take five years to score a gold record; seen Yo Yo, for all her dissing of Ice Cube on "It's A Man's World", fade from the scene. She's seen Me'Shell Ndegecello ignored by black radio because her music eludes its straitjacket categories.

If The Miseducation is about anything, it's the need for female soul power in an ever-more desensitised male music-culture. As Hill told Spin last year: "I was thinking that hip hop and R&B, as we now know them, aren't as personal and intimate as the music I want to make - a lot of it is very braggadocious and cool." The joy of The Miseducation lies both in its musicality and in its willingness to explore subjects ignored by the gunfire junkies of male hip hop. ("Every Ghetto, Every City", with its vivid sketches of Hill's New Jersey childhood, is a hip hop "I Wish".) Hill says she wanted to "write songs that brically move me and have the integrity of reggae and the knock of hip hop and the instrumentation of classic soul", and to give those songs "a sound that's raw". She's succeeded.

In the heightened, menacing atmosphere in which hip hop music is made these days, Hill has taken a new road. She's become the "Every Woman" that Chaka Khan - another vocal influence, one suspects - sang about in 1978. The crucial missing link between Lil Kim and Lilith Fair, she's a made a manifesto of an album that's already made millions of women - black, white, red, yellow - sit up and pay attention. It could just turn out to be the black Jagged Little Pill.

"Rock Hard like granite or steel," Hill raps on "Final Hour". "People feel Lauryn Hill from New-Ark to Israel/ And this is real..." Ain't nothing but the truth, though she do say so herself.

Lauryn Hill plays the Brixton Academy, London, tonight (0171-771 2000)

LYRIC SHEETS

MARTIN NEWELL

Porty years ago this week, during a gruelling tour of the American mid-west. Buddy Holly was killed when the plane which he'd chartered crashed in bad weather

Buddy's Laundry

He wanted to get his laundry done Ran out of shirts and things like that. Wanted to sleep in a bed that night The reason that he took the flight.

The real reason that Buddy died Is most discussed in touring vans By tired musicians on the run: He wanted to get his laundry done.

You don't wanna wake up grubby, cold Crick-in-your-neck on a fuggy bus Missing the missus daughter/son No. What you need is your laundry done.

And they never tell you in the mags What any working heart-throb knows; The ratio of gigs to pants,

It sort of kills the whole romance. So half-way through the average tour, The interviews, the jokes, the drink. They're very nice and all of that

But what you crave is a laundromat. The brilliant songs and banging set Hide dirty, pissed-off, homesick boys.

For the goose that laid the golden egg. And in the end you'll hijack time Take a plane on a dicey night With bucket loo and a plywood scat

Just to escape the whiff of feet.

An extra date on the "final" leg

And so the reason Buddy died. Among those theories going on Musicians often point to one: He wanted to get his laundry done.



BLACK STAR LINER BENGALI BANTAM YOUTH EXPERIENCE The New Album



"A truly wondrous record" - TIME OUT "The future of Rock 'n' Roll" - EVENING STANDARD "Fantastic... a funky electro masterpiece" - company "One of the reasons why this country still leads the world in musical creativity" - THE MIRROR "Superb" - FRONT "****" - Q

Fanfare to free form

The late Sixties proved to be a zenith of British jazz. Richard Williams celebrates its dynamic scene

BRITISH JAZZ has had its ups and downs, but it was surely never more consistently and joyfully elevated than at the very end of the Sixties, when the likes of Mike Westbrook, John Surman, Graham Collier and Keith Tippett were making their reputations with a music which embraced elements of the avant-garde and the mainstream, while chucking in less obvious elements.

Created in a hectic, unreflective rush, their music found an attractive balance between exuberant vigour and intellectual substance. Nights at Ronnie Scott's Old Place and the 100 Club were sweaty, intense, often ecstatic, and usually thought-provoking. This wasn't the first British jazz to display genuine originality, as many discovered with the recent reappearance of Joe Harriott's two long-lost albums. But whereas the Harriott quintet was unique, representing virtually nothing but itself, the work of Westbrook and Surman was at

the centre of an entire scene. Surman, born in 1944, was still a schoolboy when he met Westbrook while playing in Plymouth Arts Centre's Jazz Workshop. He was an authentic prodigy who played the baritone saxophone with a rampaging garrulousness that made every solo a thing of high drama

Westbrook, 10 years older, was aiready offering a personal addition to the palette of jazz. He could adapt the tonal range of Duke Ellington and the collective heterophony of Charles Mingus without needing to



Mike Westbrook

appropriate the cultural baggage of those African-American ndleaders; most important of all, what he picked up from them was an understanding of how to link the roles of composer and bandleader, in the manner special to jazz. Celebration and Release,

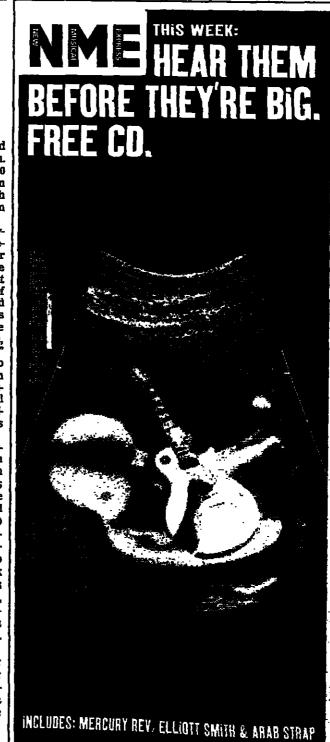
recorded in 1967 and 1968 respectively, both consist of album-long suites and show how fast the music was moving. The former – co-composed by Surman - is full of broad, generous melodies, with solos to match, the 12-piece line-up given a swaggering swing by Alan Jackson's drums and Harry Miller's bass. The Mingus-like locomotion of the section titled "Parade", featuring a dual improvisation by Surman and the alto saxophonist Mike Osborne, still sounds spectacular, as do the prowling Ellingtonian woodwinds of the atmospheric "Image".

Free improvisation, an occasional feature of Celebrastructural role in Release, with impression of an unusual kind of organic fragmentation. Scored by Westbrook for 10 musicians, it features his own compositions interspersed with brief readings of six tunes from the standard repertoire.

Beginning with a free-blowing fanfare, it proceeds immediately into a long feature for Osborne, including a plaintive variation of "Lover Man" that will remind his admirers of what we lost when he retired from public performance in his thirties. Other soloists include the tenorist George Khan, muscling into "Flying Home" and "Gee Baby, Ain't I Good To You" like a wild cross between Albert Ayler and Junior Walker, and the trombonists Paul Rutherford and Malcolm Griffiths, a reminder of Ellington's sweet-and-sour pairings

Originally released alongside the work of Procol Harum and the young Cat Stevens on Deram, the Decca group's progressive rock" label, the first efforts of Surman and Westbrook may have failed to match commercial expectations, but each retains an excellence that has nothing to do with nostalgia. If I had to pick the half-dozen best recordings from the history of British jazz, the ardent warmth and enduring freshness of Celebration would make it a certain choice.

Mike Westbrook Concert Band: 'Celebration' (Deram 844 852-2); Release (844 851-2); John Surman: John Surman' (Deram 844 884-2); How Many Clouds Can You See?' (844 882-2)



THIS WEEK'S ALBUM RELEASES

REVIEWED BY ANDY GILL



Extremely Cool Slow River/Rykodisc

THE COVER of what is only Chuck E sharing vocals on a few tracks - he's de-Weiss's second album in 18 years features a shot of him as a teenage tearaway, ciggie drooping from lower lip as he stares the camera down. It's the sensible choice. given that the cult figure now has a face that's not so much lived in as squatted in by a greengrocer looking for somewhere to store a few extra sacks of spuds.

Weiss is a Los Angeles legend best known as the eponymous subject of Rickie Lee Jones's "Chuck E's In Love", a song rooted in the early-Seventies when Rickie Chuck and Tom Waits all lived at Hollywood's seedy rock'n'roll hangout, the Tropicana Motel. For 11 years he had a nightly residency at West Hollywood's Central night-club, before joining Johnny Depp in transforming it into the Viper Room. It was sometimes thought that, like the Tropicana, Chuck himself had long since been demolished. But thanks largely to the efforts of Tom Waits - who is coproducer here, as well as co-writing and

livered this steaming plateful of what Chuck calls "twisted jungle music".

Unsurprisingly, Chuck's style shares several characteristics with Tom's, particularly in the way it's deeply rooted in post-war jazz and blues modes - "Deeply Sorry" could have come straight off Blue Valentine, while "Pygmy Fund" and "Do You Know What I Idi Amin" find the pair jamming hipster-jive nonsense with the aplomb of Lord Buckley. But there's a more Beetheartian cast to tracks such as "Devil With Blue Suede Shoes", a typically Angelenean slice of electrified countryblues. Chuck also shares something of the Captain's vocal range, slipping from growly baritone to keening falsetto in the

space of a single line. He's a versatile performer, too, turning his hand to cajun music, rock'n'roll, jive and cool jazz/poetry sessions, but always with a smirk that prevents them becoming mere dilettante exercises.



Drum & Bass Strip to the Bone by Howie B

ON THE face of it, this hook-up between the bespoke reggaematic rhythm sec-tion and mix-tailor to the stars, Howie Bernstein, ought to result in some stylish new modes. Unfortunately, while Sty and Robbie are great at creating basic grooves, and Howie has a particular gift for polishing tracks, there's a gaping hole where the melodies should be. Instead, industrial noises and dub effects collude in concealing the shape of the pieces, which are all context and no subject.

The 10-minute opener, "Into Battle", is typical. Swathed in echo, the groove is filtered ruthlessly, bottlenecked into a simple pulse, before fragments of the rhythm tracks are allowed to accrete around it. It's a few more minutes before the bass finally flows in, like Tarmac over hardcore, and seven minutes before shreds of guitar provide the final decoration. Despite tough, macho titles such as "Exodub Implosion" and "Superthruster", the overall attitude is more one of desultorily hanging around, vainly hoping for something interesting to appear in the scrapyard soundscapes.



ELVIS PRESLEY Sunrise

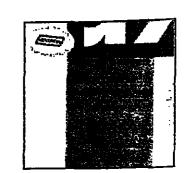
JUDGING BY Elvis's fate, death is not the end - just the start of an eternal reissue campaign. At least Surrise is worth its position in the schedule, being the original Sun Sessions bulked out with an extra CD of out-takes, scratchy live cuts, and the couple of soupy Inkspotsstyle croons he recorded at Sam Phillips's studio for his mother in 1953. The formal sessions in July 1954 likewise began with limp ballads such as "I Love You Because" and "Harbor Lights"; but when Elvis started horsing around with Arthur "Big Boy" Crudup's "That's All Right, Mama" during a coffee-break, the astute Phillips pricked up his ears and wound up playing midwife to rock'n'roll.

It's impossible to imagine a world without Elvis, but within songs such as "Mystery Train" one catches glimpses of the youngster whose taste for black artists such as Junior Parker and Rosco Gordon spurred him to that first, epochal blending of country and R&B. As he says after a false start to "Milkcow Blues Boogie", "Hold it fellas - that don't move me; let's get real, real gone for a change!".



THE TRACTORS Farmers In A Changing World

THE COVER to The Tractors' second offering - a social-unrealist illustration that's like some jolly midwest American version of a communist poster celebrating record agricultural output - features a flash reading not "New and Improved!" but "Same Great Sound". They're not kidding, either. These Okie veterans have obviously decided that, since their muscular and assured roots-rock sure ain't broke, it certainly don't need fixing. The emphasis is on a jovial backbeat, with Walt Richmond's piano lending an extra barroom bounce to country-funk numbers like the philosophical "The Elvis Thing". The results will find a place in the heart of anyone who ever bought an album by Leon, Little Feat or JJ Cale. Versatile isn't the half of it: The Tractors can take an old chestnut like "Shortenin" Bread" and transform it into swaggering swamp funk, moments after a Western Swing exercise like "How Long Will It Take", and moments before a lachrymose bout of self-pity like "The World's Biggest Fool", with no discernible grinding of gears between styles.



VARIOUS ARTISTS Kranky Kompilation

AFTER HARDCORE, thrashcore and sadcore - borecore, Chicago's Kranky label specialises in minimalist drone music from the likes of Bowery Electric and Jessamine, bands who've lingered far too long for their own good over their old My Bloody Valentine albums. Kompilation is replete with vague low-end loomings and indistinct female murmurs, few of which repay the time spent listening to them. Godspeed You Black Emperor!'s fragment of "The Dead Flag Blues", a poem set to soothing swells of strings, is quite moving without appearing to go anywhere. Other than that, only Philosophers Stone demonstrate any real ability to transmute base metal tones into something more valuable. The rest is like a competition to see how little music can be made with bass and electric piano. bass and percussion or bass and industrial drone - there's always a bass to hand. and sometimes little else. The results are homogenously dull, the fun sound of machines humming. It's the engaged tone of rock, the sound of musicians waiting for something to happen. It never does.

I'M SURE I SAW THEM ON A POSTER...

THE INDEPENDENT'S REGULAR ROUND-UP OF NEW BANDS

CHICKS WEREN'T big on lyrics. Their first song saw them shouting "na-na-na na-na na-nana" with no discernible enthusiasm and enacting elementary guitar figures that left the audience slack-jawed in disbelief. Their tunes weren't up to much, either, probably because their vocals were so piercing that only mice would have been able to detect a fluctuation in pitch. Chicks espouse short, punky numbers that are designed to fill you with

joyful abandon but left me

10

virtually weeping into my pint with embarrassment. The three Dublin teenagers have fallen victim to the conviction that vouthful attitude is more important than talent. But Chicks' only flash of anarchy seen when they dropped their instruments and gave them a half-hearted kick - seemed prompted only by the prospect of leaving the stage.

Innersleeve were hardly an enticing prospect either. They looked as if they were steeling themselves for ritual punishment

as they walked on to the stage. Their opening number harked back to the shoe-gazing days of Ride, but lacked the gravitas of their forebears. But as their songs gathered

pace, Innersleeve seemed to warm to their surroundings. Later songs offered more substantial guitars and meatier vocals while their last, largely instrumental track drew together eerily undulating guitars, doom-laden drums and exquisite melodies that made you hold your breath. This epic

CHICKS ASTORIA. LONDON

> INNERSLEEVE BARFLY, LONDON

> KARAMASOV GARAGE. LONDON

aria seemed eternal, though its conclusion came as a cruel shock and left you gasping. Karamasov seem to have aged before their time. This AngloGerman quartet slowly nodded their heads and gazed into the middle distance like seasoned session musicians, while their music had a timeless quality that would have sounded just as

alluring from a gramophone. Their elaborate mixture of electronica and prog-rock evoked the experimental ruminations of Tortoise and the retro-kitsch of the French duo Air. There were also perfunctory nods to original Krautrockers, Faust and Can. They tinkered with clashing rhythms and seemingly

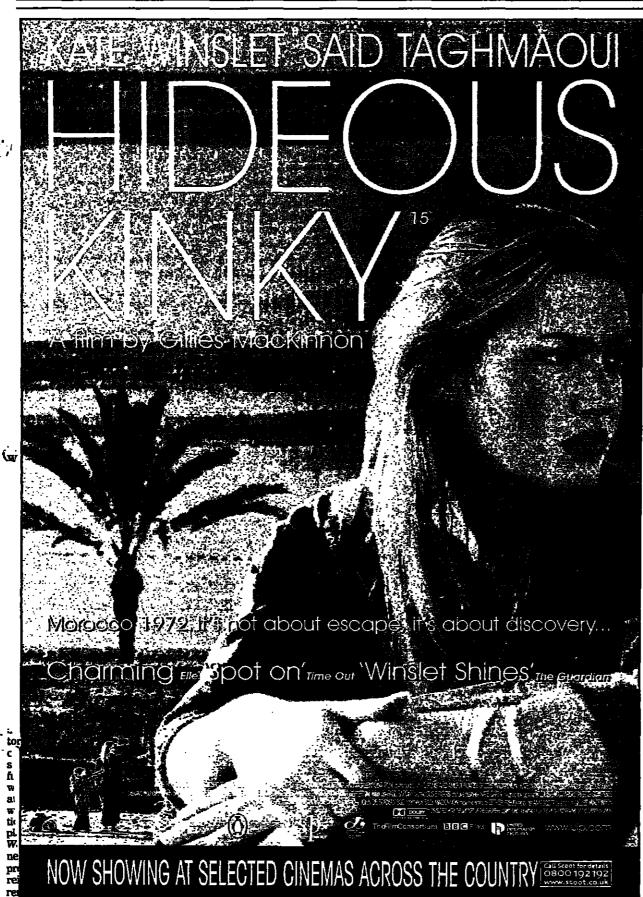
incongruous sound-effects, and you couldn't help thinking that you might have stumbled upon a jamming session that no one was supposed to hear. This experimental noodling sometimes dissolved into incoherent background noise. But there were glimpses of blissful acoustic melodies that arrived like a blast of fresh air

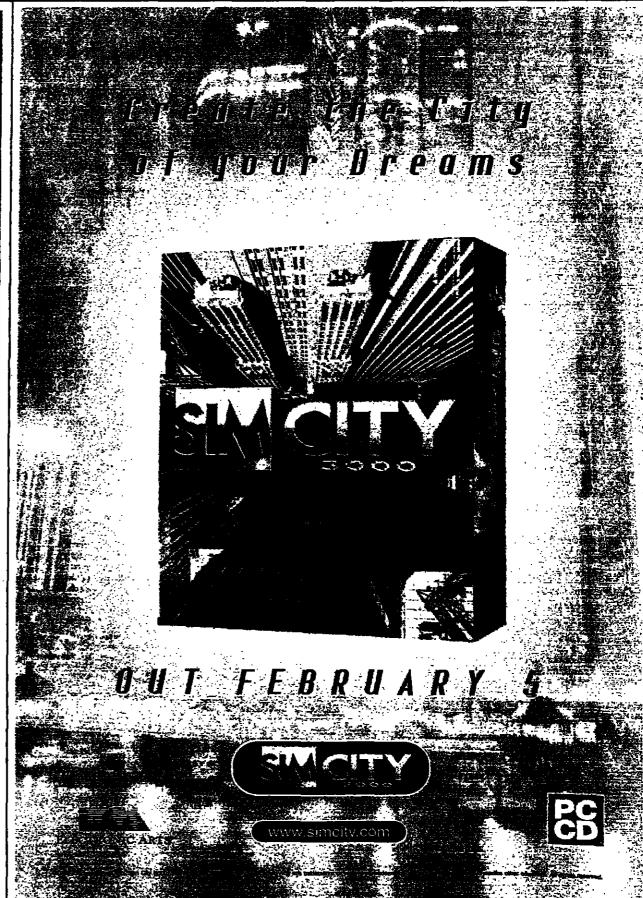
The customary pretentiousness of Karamasov's post-rock genre was far more evident in the crowd than on the

in a sticky sauna.

stage. With style magazines babbling about prog rock's revival, it's inevitable that this kind of gig should be full of 18year-olds in combat trousers and hidicrously large shades. For a band to sound so different from their contemporaries comes as a blessed relief, but the acid test will be how long Karamasov can hold on to this flighty fan-base. Perhaps true devotees know that everything they need to hear is buried deep within their parents' record collection.

FIONA STURGES





Multicultural pick-and-mix

Bayan Northcott previews the rewards and controversies of a month of world music in London and Glasgow

morrow on the South Bank, the London Philharmonic under Kent Nagano, with sundry Asian and African performers and "guest groups from the culturally diverse communities in Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham", will be blithely stepping into an ideological minefield.

Billed as "Roots: Classic Fusions", the event is one of a series with the intention of bringing together "music from the European classical tradition and the "traditional music" of other societies. The theme for 1999 celebrates the power of ritual in music across time and cultures." Accordingly, the day's culminating concert will intersperse performances of Copland's Appalachian Spring, Guillaume de Machaut's Messe de Notre Dame and The Rite of Spring by Stravinsky with pipings of a Turkish nay flautist, songs and drumming from the African rainforest, and so on.

No doubt the programme is intended to throw up plausible parallels and analogies - between the Turkish flute solos and the plainchant that would originally have interspersed the sections of Machaut's Messe, for instance, or between Stravinsky's "Primitive" rhythms and Picasso's could also risk censure, either as an arbitrary offering to the Gods of political correctness, or as a symptom of Western cultural imperialism. Doubtless the same issues will turn up in Sunday's Radio 3 Settling the Score at 5.45pm, entitled Music and the Marvellous, investigating "The influence of non-Western sounds and structures on 20th-century art music - gamelan, gagaku, Thai music, ragas, African

rhythms, polyphonies and folk music." Not that European classical tradition, let alone Western sounds and structures, have ever quite comprised the impermeable culture that tends to be assumed by proponents of World Music or whatever. After all, much of the continent has been a melting-pot for millennia. The Church split early on between Eastern and Western branches with their divergent musical traditions. The Moorish occupation of Spain bequeathed the lute to the Renaissance, just as the ejection of the Turks from the Balkans left the 18th century its increasing percussion department. And whatever may be justly held against the imperialistic expansiveness of the 19th century, it brought a genuine curiosity about other cultures and the first stirrings of a systematic ethno-musicology. French com-

European music has never been impermeable. Much of the continent has been a melting-pot for millennia

posers in particular, from Berlioz and Saint-Saëns to Debussy and Ravel, took to working into their pieces sounds of Arabic concurrent interest in African art. But it street music picked up on holidays in Algiers, or gamelan textures from visiting en-sembles at international exhibitions even if such "Orientalist" tastes have more recently been criticised in certain ideological quarters as "neo-colonial".

What, then, are we to think at the end of another century during which the entire recoverable pasts and presents of the many musics of the world seem to have been mapped out and are now available to the ear at the flick of a switch? In some ways we better understand the parallels

Europe. India, China, Japan and the East Indies have all evolved their folk music. nonular vernaculars and classical high cultures. Some musicologists have even at-tempted to show that a "deep structure" of musical formation and cognition underlies all the world's cultures and that the musicality of Man is ultimately indivisible.

Others have argued that music is culture-specific, and that each of the world's great traditions exhibits features unique to itself; that there is really nothing else quite like the dynamic thought of a Western symphony, or the decorative richness of a consummate Indian raga, or the integral relationship of sound, time and gesture in the Japanese Noh theatre, or the complex layering and gearing of tempi in Balinese garnelan music. From this point of view, we can never wholly understand musical cultures into which we have not been born and bred. Hence pressures towards various forms of pick-and-mix multicultural collage - running strongly at present, both for socio-political and globalconsumerist reasons - should be resisted in the interests of musical ecology.

Caught between these extremes, every 20th-century Western composer seeking to supplement the heritage with elements of other cultures has had to work out an individual accommodation. Messiaen's solution, for instance, was simply to treat his Hindu rhythms as objets sonores in the same manner as the plainchant, exotic modes and birdsong transcriptions he arranged in his grand theological soundfriezes. By contrast, Elliott Carter - whose student experience included notating the playing of Arab musicians in Tunis for the scholar Baron Rodolphe d'Erlanger - has taken from non-Western music only such structural devices as could be extracted between cultures - how, for instance, without cultural damage. The perpetually



Benjamin Britten: his acquaintance with Balinese gamelan music dated back to 1940

self-generating melodic line of his Penthode (1985), for instance, was suggested by a fairy-tale ballet a decade later, he decided hearing a performance of north Indian Dhrupad music by the Dagar Brothers, but the music at no point sounds Oriental.

Doubtless these and other positions will again be under scrutiny when Glasgow will mount, and Radio 3 will relay, a whole week of concerts tracking the response of 20thcentury Western composers to non-Western sources, including a visit from the Kronos Quartet, a performance of A Night at the Chinese Opera by Judith Weir and, not least, a substantial suite from that locus classicus of the multi-cultural debate, Britten's ballet The Prince of the Pagodos. Britten's acquaintance with Balinese gamelan music dated back to 1940, when he was introduced to it by the composer-ethnomusicologist Colin McPhee, and by 1945 he was interested enough to introduce a covert gamelan texture into the "Sunday Morning" interlude

to use gamelan sounds for the magic music - and visited Bali in 1956 for a fortnight of listening, notating and recording. This contact only enhanced his respect for the culture: "The music is fantastically rich -melodically, rhythmically, texturally - such orchestration!!! above all formally," he wrote to Imogen Holst. "At last I'm beginning to catch on to the technique, but it's about as complicated as Schoenberg." The Act II gamelan sequence he ultimately derived from his trip and some additional recordings, though scored entirely for Western instruments, has been praised for its faithfulness to the sounds of his sources.

Not that this prevented the world music critic of the BBC's Music Magazine from dismissing the score as "colonial". Evidently, he was unaware of the half of it. One of Britten's most striking passages was derived from a recording made in London by 23 Feb-3 Mar, Royal Concert Hall. Glasgow a visiting Balinese ensemble in 1952. (box office 0141-287 5511) and on Radio 3

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So when Covent Garden commissioned Thanks to discoveries by the late David Munrow and Dr Donald Mitchell, it has since emerged that the salient track of the recording was in fact inspired by Britten's own music. The manager of the Balinese visit, wishing the players to devise an opening number that would bridge the gap for Western listeners, had played them a recording of The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra - and this was the players' response. Yet Britten himself scents to have been unaware at the time of the recording's provenance; nor would he easily have guessed, since, to Western ears at least, the track sounds as Balinese as the rest. The question that arises from this curious skein of coincidence is irresistible: just who was colonising whom?

> 'Roots: Classic Fusions', tomorrow, 1.30pm, Royal Festival Hall, London (bax office 0171-960 4242). 'Beyond Our Shores',

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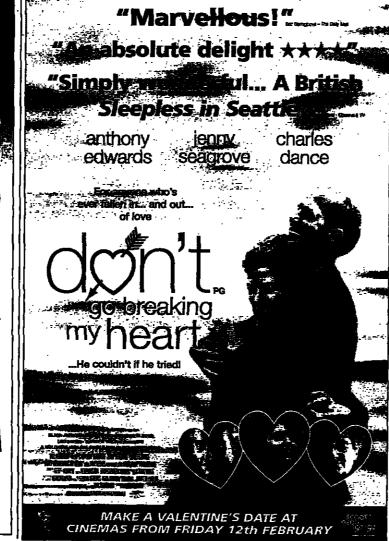
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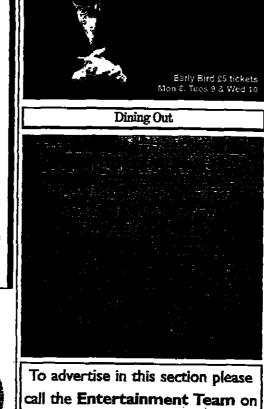
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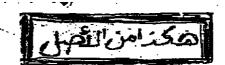
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NEW FILMS

A BUG'S LIFE (U) Director: John Lasseter Starring: David Foley, Kevin Spacey See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. And local cinemas

HIDEOUS KINKY (15) Director: Gillies Mackinnon Starring: Kate Winslet, Said Taghmaoui Through the teeming orange/red/turquoise backdrop of 1970s Morocco treads Kafe Winslet's hippie single-mum, her two daughters (Bella Riza, Carrie Mullan) unwillingly in tow. Meantime, gormless backpackers, Sufi teachers, thieving natives and Saïd Taghmaoui's child-ofthe soil love-interest weave hither and thither across the narrative. Regeneration director Mackinnon makes a fair fist of translating Esther Freud's novel to the screen; stirring in lots of ethnic chic and a canny period soundtrack. Winslet does well with a change-of-pace role as the tale's permanently strung-out, unsated matriarch, and the child stars are startlingly good. West End: Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Curzon Minema, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road.

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (15) Director: Kevin Sultivan

Quays. Repertory: Phoenix Cinema

Local: Kilburn Tricycle Cinema, UCI Surrey

Starring: Angela Bassett, Whoopi Goldberg Stella got her groove back like this. She took off to Jamaica with her feisty buddie (Whoopi Goldberg), sashayed around the beach in a clinging bikini, and got herself a little love action in the form of a man (Taye Diggs) young enough to be her son. So it goes: Shirley Valentine with an

Afro-American spin. Terry MacMillan's bestseller has been conjured into a kind of ongoing travelagent commercial - a coldly marketed "chickflick" enjoying a run at cinemas before cropping up as your in-flight entertainment. Title star Angela Basself works hard to make an impression among the slide-show of tourist-brochure visuals.

West End: Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Dagenham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Feltham Cineworld the Movies, Harrow Warner Village, Holloway Odeon, Peckham Premier, Staples Corner Virgin, Streatham Odeon, New Stratford Picture House, UCI Surrey Quays

LIVING OUT LOUD (15)

Director: Richard LaGravenese Starring: Holly Hunter, Danny DeVito See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. Local: Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Peckham Premier, Streatham ABC

PECKER (18) Director: John Waters

Starring: Edward Furlong, Christina Ricci, Lili Taylor

Trash auteur Waters swerves into sunnier streets with Pecker, his fluffily satirical tale of an amateur Baltimore photographer (Edward Furlong) adopted as a fly-on-the-wall artiste by the New York elite. More Hairspray than Pink Flamingos. Pecker goes big on blue-collar kitsch without ever making any real, stringent point, and squanders Christina Ricci (as Furlong's hard-nosed girlfriend) into the bargain. The result is entirely genial, but you miss the old risk, edge and bad-taste artistry. Age, it seems, has mellowed John Waters. West End: Clapham Picture House, Metro, Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Haymarket

Xan Brooks

GENERAL RELEASE

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)

The follow-up to Babe tosses the hapless "sheep-pig" into the midst of the city where he becomes the unlikely saviour of a bunch of assorted waifs. West End: Plaza. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Berleyheath Cineworld, Croydon Warner Village, Dagenham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Warner Village North Finchley. Harrow Warner Village, Holloway Odeon, Peckham Premier, Richmond Odeon Studio, Sutton UCI 6, UCI Surrey Quays, Wimbledon Odeon

BULWORTH (18)

Disillusioned at the end of an election campaign, senator Jay Bulworth (Warren Beatty) turns suicidal loose cannon; hanging out in the 'hood and delivering his speeches in abrasive rap stylings. West End: Clapham Picture House. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End. Local: Catford ABC, Croydon Clocktower, Croydon Safari, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Warner Village Finchley Road, Peckham Premier, Wimbledon Odeon Repertory: Watermans Arts Centre

ELIZABETH (15)

Shekhar Kapur's story of a woman struggling to gain purchase in a male world largely neglects the opportunities for fun in a story of independence triumphing over cruelty. West End: ABC Panton Street, Clapham Picture

House, Curzon Minema, Odeon Mezzanine

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse, probes a political cover-up and gets embroiled in all manner of Big Brother-type trouble. West End: Odeon Camden Town. Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS (18) Terry Gilliam's adaptation tilts at Raiph Steadman cartoonery for its tale of a drug-fuelled journalistic assignment. The film soon descends into a carnival of narcotic lunacy, but the one stand-out is Johnny Depp - who brings Hunter S Thompson to bald-headed, pigeon-toed life. West End: Gate Notting Hill Repertory: Prince Charles, The Lux Cinema

HILARY AND JACKIE (15)

Full-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustains, Anand Tucker's biopic of the Du Pré sisters, Hilary (sby, married flautist) and Jacqueline (world-famous cellist). West End-Barbican Screen, Chelsea Cinema, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Mayfair, Curzon Soho, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage. Screen on the Hill. Local: Greenwich Cinema, Richmond Odeon Studio

LITTLE VOICE (15) Holed up in her bedroom, timid North Country sparrow LV (Jane Horrocks) perfects strident Shirley Bassey/Judy Garland impersonations. Bracing black comedy, Horrocks' vocal pyrotechnics, plus a marvellously weighted turn from Michael Caine push it through to the final curtain. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. And local cinemas

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG) This gaudy swashbuckler gallops full-speed brough 19th-century California in the company of Antonio Banderas's authentically Hispanic do-gooder. West End: Odeon Mezzonine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Virgin Fulham Road, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

MEET JOE BLACK (12) Martin Brest's underdeveloped rehaul of Death Takes a Holiday stars Brad Pitt as the aquiline Grim Reaper, who get chaperoned around the everyday delights of Planet Earth by Anthony Hopkins' dying billionaire. West End: Empire Leicester Square Local: Bedeyheath Cineworld, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Feltham Cineworld the Movies, Streatham ABC

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18) See The Independent Recommends, above

West End. Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Warner Village West End. Local: Feltham Cineworld the Movies, Warner Village Finchley Road, Richmond Odeon Studio. UCI Surrey Quays

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Panton Street, Curzon Soho. Local: Richmond Odeon Studio

PRACTICAL MAGIC (12)

Essentially a sibling soap-opera with a dash of mumbo-jumbo, Practical Magic sees Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman cast as two mismatched sisters raised from a line of witches and hexing any unlucky man who swings into their 7th Dianne Wiest and Aidan Quinn West End: Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT (I)

In planning his cartoon life of Moses, DreamWorks honcho Jeffrey Katzenberg envisaged it "painted by Claude Monet and photographed by David Lean". The end result ends up looking more like The Ten Commandments by way o. Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat. West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

Rush Hour marries Jackie Chan with an LA backdrop, a jobbing Hollywood director and a wise-cracking black comic in Chris Tucker's huckstering LAPD man. It's a hit-and-miss-affair. West End: Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Croydon Warner Village, Dagenham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Harrow Warner Village. Staples Corner Virgin, Streatham Odeon, UCI Surrey Quays, Wimbledon Odeon. Repertory: National Film Theatre

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, obove. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road. Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

This sugar-glazed, oven-ready affair casts an

out-of-sorts Susan Sarandon as a middle-aged matriarch squabbling over her offspring with the new model morn (Julia Roberts) that hubby Ed Harris has hooked up with. The first mom gets poorly and laughter turns to tears (or at least weary resignation). West End: Odeon Comden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. And local cinemas

TWO GIRLS AND A GUY (18)

James Toback's taught drama probes aggressively at the psychological make-up of its three central characters. Heather Graham and Natasha Gregson Warner are the duped girlfriends of Robert Downey Jr's love-rat prima donna, and Two Girls and a Guy gives them plenty of room to move and breathe, turning the resulting yarn into a pungent acting showcase. West End: Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket. Local: Warner Village Finchley Road

VERY BAD THINGS (18) A bunch of stag-weekenders accidentally kill a Las Vegas whore, intentionally murder the security guard who rumbles the crime, and then start coming apart at the seams on their arrival home. Peter Berg's debut serves up swaggering gross-out comedy in a Loaded-magazine style. With Cameron Diaz and Christian Slater. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

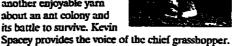
Shakespeare in Love (15) This enjoyable romp suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Juliet. Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth

Living Out Loud (15)

Paltrow head a multi-star cast.

Holly Hunter plays a Manhattan woman who, left by her husband, befriends the elevator operator in her building. Writer Richard LaGravenese handles everything with affectionate restraint.

A Bug's Life (U) Less sophisticated and more child-friendly than Ant: this animated feature (right) spins another enjoyable yarn about an ant colony and its battle to survive. Kevin



The Opposite of Sex (18) Christina Ricci plays 16-year-old bitch-on-wheels Dedee, who causes all kinds of havor when she moves in with her half-brother (Martin Donovan).

Darren Aronofsky's debut, filmed in sooty blackand-white, tells the story of a genius mathematician. This stylish indie movie fearlessly combines Wall Street, Jewish mysticism and nightmarish headaches.

ANTHONY QUINN

ODEON KENSINGTON

6.25pm 9.25pm, 12.25am

ODEON MARBLE ARCH

Stepmom 12.30pm, 3.6.10pm, 8.55pm, 11.50pm

m. 5.35pm. 8.20pm Lock.

5.25pm, 8.15pm The

5.50pm, 8.35pm n 12.10pm, 2.45pm,

1.55pm, 8.55pm

(08705-050007) & Leicester Square Little Voice 1.55pm,

Circus Babe: Pig in the City 12.40pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm, 7.30pm Star Trek:

spm, 7.30pm Star trest insurrection 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Truman Show 1pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Very Bad Thiags 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

(0171-837 8402) & Russell Square The Apple (Sib) 1pm, 2.55pm, 4.50pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm Hideous Kinky 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Hideous Kinky 2.35pm, 4.40pm, 6.55pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare In Love 3.10pm, 6.25pm, 9pm

RITZY CINEMA

3.40pm, 5.45pm, 8pm, 10.05pm

Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Mask of Zorro

Siege 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm There's Something About Mary 12.45pm, 3.15pm,

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE

ODEON MEZZANINE

5.45pm, 8.20pm

3.05pm,

Stepmom 12.1 5.25pm, 8.10pm

5.40pm, 8.30pm

ODEON WEST END

4.10pm, 6.20pm, Stepmom 12.10pm,

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA

(0990-888990) O

ODEON LEICESTER SOUARE

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

The Street of Crocodiles (Queen's Theatre)

Triumphant revival (right) of Theatre de Complicite's surreal and searing plunge into the imagination of Polish-Jewish writer Bruno Schulz, To 20 Feb

Okiahoma! (Lyceum Theatre) Widely regarded as the best ever, Trevor Num's glorious production of the Rogers and Hammerstein classic fully deserves its West End transfer. To 2n Jun

The Forest (Lyttelton, National Theatre)

Frances de la Tour is deliciously amusing as the cradle-snatching widow in Ostrovsky's comedy about tyrants and thespians, in np

The Winter's Tale (RSC, Str.... ') An amazingly rich and complex performance from Antony Sher in Gregory Doran's Romanov-style production. In rep to 4 Mar

Martin Guerre

(West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds) It's third time backs for this much-rewritten musical. In Conall Morrison's starkly involving production, it finally emerges as a tighter, magnificent show. To 13 Feb

PAUL TAYLOR

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Portraits by Ingres

(National Gallery) Some of the smartest, most intense portraiture ever (right). Women: exquisite melanges of flesh and fabric, dreams of sev and money. Images of triumphant Sourgeois luxury. To 25 Apr.



Patrick Caulfield (Hayward Gallery) The modern object is add made luminous. This survey of nearly 50 years' work ofterwhis full range. - notably, those hold income outlines, blocked in with translucent colour. To 27 Max

Andreas Guruky (Serpentine Gallery) Photograpus 1994 - wide-vision high-firesh. micro-detail - world - stock-exclusive floor, crossing conference on the conference valley - images in ca with more $m_{\rm c}$ and eve can see, $R_{\rm c} = M_{\rm c} m_{\rm c}$

Disasters of War

(Wolverhampton Art Gallery) "I saw this" - three ages of European war through the etchings of Jacques Callot, Gova and One Div. Visions from the blackest of times, In 2 - Var

Peter Doig & Udomsak Krisanamis

(Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh) Doig's sizzling landscapes afternate with Krisanamis' collages of cultural detritus. In 27th to-

CINEMA WEST END

ABC PANTON STREET
(0870-9020404) Piccadilly
Circus Elizabeth 2.10pm,
5.10pm, 8.10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm.
3.35pm. 6.05pm, 8.30pm My
Name is Joe 1.20pm, 3.45pm,
6.20pm, 8.40pm x (PI) 1.25pm,
3.30pm 6.10pm, 8.35pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322 (from 1pm) & Piccadily Circus Hamam: The Turkish Bath 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm There's Something About Mary 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.00pm, 8.25pm

ABÇ SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) ↔ Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road Class Trip 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Texas Chainsaw Massacre 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.35pm, 8.55pm

1.10pm. 6.10pm, 8.40pm La Vie Revée des Anges 1.25pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD 0870-902 0414) & Tottenham

Court Road A Bug's Life 1.20pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.00pm Little Voice 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm Shakespeare in Love 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 1.10pm, BARBICAN SCREEN

(0171-638 8891) ⊕ Barbican Hilary and Jackie 6pm, 8.40pm peare in Love 3pm, 6pm, 8.40pm CHELSEA CINEMA

(0171-351 3742) ← Sloane Square Hilary and Jackie 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm. CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE

(0171-498 3323 Bulworth 9pm Hideous Kinky 2.30pm, 4.45pm. 7pm, 9.10pm Hilary and Jackie 30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm Pecker 1.30pm. 3.30pm. 7.30pm. 9.30pm Shake 5_30pm, Love 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm.

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) & Green Park Hilary and Jackie 1pm, 3.30pm, 5pm, 8.40pm

CURZON MINEMA 0171-369 1723) O Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge Hid Kinky 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm **CURZON SOHO**

(0171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm)) Leicester Square/Tottenham
 Court Road Bulworth 3.15pm. 7.15pm, 9.30pm Hideous Kinky 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Hilary and Jackie 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm x (PI) 1.15pm, 5.30pm

(0171-733 2229) BR/O Brixton Bulworth 11.35pm The Flower of EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE My Secret 2.10pm Hideous Kinky 2.45pm, 4.50pm, 7.05pm, 9.15pm, 11.25pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm, 11.45pm Little Voice (0990-888990) & Leicester Square Meet Joe Black 12noon, 3.40pm, 7.20pm, 11pm The Prince of Egypt 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.15pm Psycho 11.15pm 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.25pm, 9.30pm The Opposite of Sex 2.20pm, kespeare in Love 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm, 11.35pm 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm, 11.40pm (+ Short: Horseshoe) Shakespeare GATE NOTTING HILL in Love 2pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.25pm, 11.50pm

(0171-727 4043) & Notting Hill Gate Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas 11.15pm Hilary and Jackie 4.20pm, 8.50pm Little loice 2.20pm, 6.50pm

(0171-734 1506) + Ptocadilly SCREEN ON THE GREEN Circus/Leloester Square Dobermann 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Pecker 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm (0171-226 3520) → Highbury & igton Shakespeare in Love 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.30pm NOTTING HILL CORONET

SCREEN ON THE HILL (0171-435 3366) ← Belsize Park Hilary and Jackie 3.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm (0171-727 6705) ↔ Notting Hill Gate Shakespeare in Love Gate Shakespeare in Love 2.45pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm, 11.15pm UCI WHITELEYS ODEON CAMPEN TOWN (0870 60 34567) → Oueensway A

(08705-050007) ← Camden Town Bug's Life 1.30pm, 2.10pm, 4pm, 4.40pm, 6.30pm, 7.10pm, 8.50pm The Acid House 11.20pm A Bug's Life 12noon, 2.20pm. 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 9.05pm Enemy Bulmorth 4.10pm, 9pm Hideous Kinky 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm 8.40pm Little Voice 2pm, 6.40pm the State 10.55pm Little Voice 11.50am. 2pm. 4.15pm. 9.30pm The Opposite of Sex 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.20pm 8.45pm Pecker 2.45pm, 4.45pm, The Parent Brap 2.25pm.
Shakespeare In Love 12.35pm.
3.20pm. 6.10pm. 9.10pm.
Stepmorn 2.50pm, 5.50pm.
8.30pm Very Bad Things 5.05pm. 12:30pm, 2:43pm, 4:43pm, 6:55pm, 9:10pm Shakespeare In Love 12:10pm, 2:50pm, 5:45pm, 8:35pm, 11:15pm Stepmom 12:20pm, 6:30pm Very Bad Things 3.45pm, 9pm, 11.25pm

VIRGIN CHELSEA

VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-907 0710) ← Sloane Square/South Kensington A Bug's Life 12.30pm, 2.45pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm Bulworth 1pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 9.15pm Stepmom 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Very Bad Things 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm 6.45pm, 9.30pm, 12.15am Enemy of the State 12.10am Hilary and Jackle 3.40pm, 6.30pm Little Voice 1.50pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 7pm, 1pm, 9.35pm Practical Magic 1pm, 9.20pm, 12midright Shakespeare In Love 12.10pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm, 12.10am Stepmom 12.25pm, 3.25pm, 6.25pm 9.25pm, 12.75am VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD

(08705-050007) → Leicester Square A Bug's Life 1.45pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm, 9.30pm Practical Magic 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6pm. 8.50pm Two Girls and A Guy 1.20pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.40pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH
(08705-050007) & Marble Arch
A Bug's Life 2.05pm, 4.25pm,
6.45pm, 9.05pm Enemy of the
State 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6.05pm,
9pm. 75pm Practical Magic
1..., n, 6.25pm Rush Hour
11.20pm Shakespeare in Love
12.35pm, 3.25pm, 6.15pm,
915pm, 12midnight The Slege
3.35pm, 8.55pm, 11.50pm
Stepmom 12.30pm, 3.20pm,
6.10pm, 8.55om, 11.50pm 6.20pm, 8.55pm VIRGIN TROCADERO

(0870-907 0716) © Piccadilly Circus Enemy of the State 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm, 11.20pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 12.35pm, 11.40pm How Stella Got . Her Groove Back 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm, 11.30pm Living Out Loud 1pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.20pm, 10.45pm Practical 8.20pm. Magic 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm Rush Hour 11.40pm Shakespeare in Love 11.40pm Shakespeare in Love 12noon, 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm, 11.20pm Still Crazy 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Very Bad Things 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm, 11.30pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) ⊕ Leicester Square Blade 11.10pm Bulworth 8.15pm Little 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm Shakespeare in Love 12.20pm, 8.35pm 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.40pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 12.50pm, 3.40pm. Grober Bath 12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:10pm, 11:55pm Living Out Loud 12:40pm, 3:20pm, 6;m, 8:40pm, 11:15pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12:05am The Mask of Zorro 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.30pm The 12.30pm, 5.20pm, 0.30pm The Opposite of Sex 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 11.10pm A Perfect Murder 1.30pm. 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.25pm Practical Magic Magic 5.50pm, 9.25pm 12.20pm. 12.20pm. 3.10pm. 5.50pm, 8.40pm, 11.30pm (+ Short: Eight) Rush Hour 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 9.20pm, 12.10am Very Bad Things 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm, 12midnight What Dreams May

CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

ARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE

Come 6.15pm, 8.40pm.

ACTON

(0181-896 0066) & Park Royal A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2pm, 2.30pm, 4.20pm, 4.50pm, 6.30pm, 7.10pm, 8.40pm, 9.35pm, 12midight En-emy of the State 1.30pm, 1.10pm. 7pm, 9,50pm, 12.30am How Stella Got Her Groove Back 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 8.55pm, 11.50pm Lit-tle Voice 4.30pm, 9.10pm The Parent Trap 2.20pm, 5.05pm Practical Magic 2.10pm, 6.50pm Psycho 11.30pm Rush Hour 11pm Shake-11.30pm Rush Hour 11pm Shake-speare in Love 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm, 12.10am The Siege 7.40pm, 10.10pm, 12.40am Stepmom 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm, 11.20pm Very Bad Things 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.30pm (not Thu), 10pm, 12.20pm

ODEON (08705 050007) + High Barnet A Bug's Life 2.20pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.05pm Little Voice 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm Practical Magic 1pm, 6.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.45pm. 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Stepmom 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things 3.30pm, 9pm

BEÇKENHAM ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction A Bug's Life 12.25pm, 2.35pm, 4.45pm, 6.55pm, 9pm Little Voice 2.50pm. 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm The Parent Trap 12.10pm The Prince of Egypt 12.40pm Shakespeare In Love 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm STUDIO (0181-663 0103) Twen-

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bexleyheath A Bug's Life 12noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8pm, 9pm, 11pm Enemy of the State 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm, 12.05am Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate 4pm

Little Voice 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm The Mask of Zorro 1pm, 6.30pm Meet Joe Black 12.45pm, 4.15pm Practical Magic 12.35pm, 13.15pm Practical Magic 12.35pm, 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm, 12.15am Psycho 11.50pm Shake-12.13am Psycho 11.30pm Shake-speare in Love 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm, 11.55pm The Siege 10pm, 12.20am Stepmom 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.35pm, 12.10am Very Bad Things 4pm, 9.50pm, 12.20am

CROYDON

BROMLEY ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South A Bug's Life 12.35pm, 2.55pm, 5.15pm, 7.40pm, 10pm Little Voice 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.35pm, 10.05pm Shakespeare in Love 1.05pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.25pm Stepmom 12.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9.35pm

CATFORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catford. A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Bulworth 2.15pm. 5.45pm, 8.30pm

SAFAR! (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon, A Bug's Life 5,40pm, 8pm Bulworth 5,30pm, 8,30pm Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain

5.15pm, 8.15pm, 11pm Hu Tu Tu WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 090) BR: East Croydon A Life 2.30pm. 3.40pm. 4.50pm. 6.10pm. 7.10pm. 8.30pm. 9.30pm. 11.50pm Enemy of the State 3.50pm. 6.40pm (not Thu), 9.40pm. 12.30am Little Voice 1.50pm. 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm, 11,30pm Practical Magic 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Rush Hour 11,20pm 8.40pm kush Hour 11.20pm Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm, 11.40pm The Siege 11pm Stepmom 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm, 12midnight Very Bad Things 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm, 12.20am

DAGENHAM

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) & Dagenham Heathway A Bug's Life 1.45pm, 3pm, 4pm. 5.10pm, 6.30pm, 7.30pm, 8.40pm, 9.40pm. 11.50pm Enemy of the State 3.30pm. 6.15pm, 9.10pm, 12midnight How Stella Got Her Groove Back 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm, 12.10am Little Voice 2pm, 4.30pm, 7.15pm, 9.20pm, 11.30pm Practical Magic 1.50pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9p 11.20pm Rush Hour 11pm speare in Love 3.20pm, 6.10pm, speare in Love 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm, 11.40pm Stepmom 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm, 11.15pm Very Bad Things 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm, 12.20am

9070719) BR/O Ealing Broadway A Bug's Life 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3,40pm, 6,20pm, 9,10pm Stepmom 2,30pm, 5,30pm, 8,30pm

BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) + Edgware Aa Ab Laut Chalen phone for times Bade Dihwala phone for times A Bug's Life 1.15pm. 3.30pm, 5.45pm, 7.35pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hal phone for times Very Bad Things 5.20pm, 8.20pm Za-

EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) & Tottenham Hale AA AB Laut Chalen 8.15pm Blade 11.40pm A Bug's Life 2 10pm. 3.40pm, 4.30pm. 6pm, 6.50pm, 8.20pm, 9pm Bulworth 6.30pm, 11.30pm Enemy of the State 4.10pm, 7pm (not Thu), 9.50pm, 12.30am How Stella Got Her Groove Back 1.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm, 12.10am Little Voice 2.45pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.20pm, 11.40pm Living out Loud 4.45pm. 7.30pm, 10pm, 12.40am Meet Joe Black 4.20pm, 8pm The Parent Trap 2.30pm Practical Magic 3.05pm. 5.45pm, 8.50pm Rush Hour 11.20pm Shakespeare in Love 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm, 12midnight The Siege 5.30pm, 11.50pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4pm Stepmom 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Very Bad Things 10pm, 12.20am

ELEPHANT & CASTLE CORONET (0171-703 4968) + Elephant & Castle A Bug's Life 4pm. 6.30pm, 8.40pm Enemy of the State 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Prac-tical Magic 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181. 867 0555) BR: Feltham AA AB Laut Chalen 11.45am, 3.30pm, 7.15pm, 11pm Bade Dilwala 11.30pm A Bug's Life 11am, 12noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm, 9pm Enemy of the State 11.20am, 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm, 12.20am How Stella Got Her 72.20att 1.30pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.45pm, 12.15am Hum Aapke Hain Koun...! 11.15am, 2.45pm,

6.20pm, 8.05pm, 9.45pm, 11.30pm

FELTHAM

TOM LUBBOK K Hota Hai 6 15pm Little Voice am 2 30pm, 4 54pm, 7 u5pm in oper Meet Joe Black 1 05pm in 5pm Meet Joe Black 1 05pm in 5pm

11 35pm Practical Magic 11 47am. 2 10pm, 4.25 in, 6.55pm 9.25pm. 11 4.7 makespeare in Love 12 main The Siege 9.50pm. 12.15am Stepmen 11.15am 1.45pm, 4.30pm, 7.16pm, 9.40gm 12.20am Very Bad Things 7.50pm, 10pm, 12.15am Zakhm 11.45am, 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 12midraght

Spin The Opposite of Sex 11 99.45

NORTH FINCHLEY

WARNER VILLAGE (0151-446 9344) 9 East Finchley Finchley Central A Bug's Life 2pm, 3pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 7pm, 7.50pm, 9.30pm, 10pm Enemy of the State 2.30pm, 5.40pm (no. Thu), 8.50pm, 1.40pm, 5.40pm, 1.40pm, 1.40pm 2.30pm, 3.40pm (not ring), 3.50pm, 11,40pm Little Voice 2.20pm, 4.50pm, 7.15pm, 9.40pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.50pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm, 12.10am The Siege 12midnight Stepmom 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Very Bad Things 1 10pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm, 11.30pm

FINCHLEY ROAD

ENER VILLAGE (0171-604 3110) & Finchley Road A Bug's Life 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.15pm, 10.30pm Butworth 5.05cm, 9.50cm Fremy of the State 4.10pm, 9.40pm Lit-de Voice 1.50pm, 7pm The Oppo-site of Sex 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Practical Magic 2pm. 4.50pm. 7.20pm. 10pm Shakespeare in Love 12.40pm. 3.20pm. 6.15pm, 9.10pm Stepmom 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Two Girls And A Guy 12.50pm, 2.50pm, 7.30pm Very Bad Things

1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm **GOLDERS GREEN** ABC (0181-455 1724) @ Golders Green Shakespeare in Love 2.45pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm

GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 01011 SR: Greenwich A Bug's Life 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm, 11pm Enemy of the State 11 10pm Hilary And Jackle 4.55pm Little Voice 7 10pm 3.20pm. 6pm. S.40pm. 11.15pm

HAMPSTEAD A Bug's Life 1 40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Little Voice 2pm, 4.15pm. 6.30pm, 3.45pm Shakesp Love 2.35pm, 5 15pm, 8 15pm

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-9070713) ← Hammersmith A Bug's Life 1 30pm 6 20pm, 6.20pm, 6 30pm Little Voice 1,20pm, 3 40pm, 6pm, 3 20pm the Prince of Egypt 1 30pm Shake-speare in Love 12 50pm, 3.40pm 6.20pm, 9.10pm Stepmom 12.40pm 3.20pm, 6pm, 8 40pm

SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) Harrow-on-the-Hill Fire 7cm 5pm, 8.45pm Hu Tu Tu S 45pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0101-427 9009) O Harrow on the Hall A Bug's Life 11.10am, 1.15pm, 1.40pm, 3.35pm, 4.10pm, 6pm, 6.40pm, 8 30pm, 9.10pm, 11.30, vi Enemy of the State 12.15pm, 3.15pm 6.05pm (not Thu) \$ 50cm 11.25pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 12,20pm, 3pm, 5,50pm, 8,40pm, 11,70pm Little Voice 12,35pm, 2,45pm, 5,05pm. 7.25pm, 9.40pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Rush Hour 11pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm, 12midnight The Siege 11.50pm Stepmom 12noch 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm, 11 10pm Very Bad Things 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm, 11 10pm

lowny Read Archway A Bug's Life

HOLLOWAY

12.05pm. 1 05pm. 2.20pm. 3.20pm, 4.35pm, 5.35pm, 6.50pm 9.05pm, 10.05pm Enemy of the State 1pm. 3.50pm. 6.45pm, 9.35pm How Stella Got Her roove Back 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Little Voice 12.15pm, 2.40pm, 5.05pm, 7.30pm, 9.55pm Practical Magic 7.50pm, 9.55pm Practical Magic 3pm, 7.40pm Shakespeare in Love 1.20pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm Stepmom 1.20pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm Very Bad Things 12.35pm, 5.15pm, 10pm

ODEON (08705 050007) @ Hal-

ILFORD ODEON (08705 050007) + Gants Hill A Bug's Life 11.40am, 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Little Voice 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Practical Magic 1.55pm.

8.40pm Fractical magic 1.35pm 4 15pm, 6.35pm Shakespeare in Love 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Stepmom 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Very Bad Things 8.45pm

THE TRICYCLE CINEMA (0171-328 1000) & Kilburn Hideous Kinky 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm KINGSTON

ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston A Bug's Life 1.20pm, 3.40pm. 6.05pm. 8.30pm Little Voice 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705 050007) & Highgate A Bug's Life 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.05pm Shakespeare in Love 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Stepmom 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm, 8.35pm, 6.05pm, 6.

PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye A Bug's Life 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.10pm Butworth 11.20pm Enemy of the State 6.30pm, 9.05pm, 11.40pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.40pm Little Voice 4.35pm Living Our Loud 4.50pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm, 11.35pm The Mask of Zorro 4.30pm The Parent Trap 2.10pm Practical Magnic 2.15pm, 7.15pm The Prince of Egypt 2.45pm Shakespeare in Love 3.35pm, 6.15pm, 8.55pm, 11.30pm The Siege 9.15pm, 11.5pm

ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley A ABC (0870-9020407) Bit Puriey A Bug's Life 1.40pm. 3.50pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Little Voice 2,30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm

ABC (0870 9020401) BR: Putney/OP-Putney Bridge A Bug's Life 2,15pm, 4,45pm, 7,05pm, 9,30pm Listle Voice 2,15pm, 4,45pm, 7,15pm, 9,35pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm

RICHMOND
ODEON (08705 050007) BR/Richmond A Bug's Life 12,10pm,
2,30pm, 4,50pm, 7,10pm, 9,30pm
Lictle Voice 2pm, 4,20pm, 6,50pm, 9.20pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007) ODEON STUDIO (08/05 050007) BR/9 Richmond Hillary And Jack-te 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm The Opposite of Sex 2.20pm, 7.10pm x (PI) 4.30pm, 9.40pm Practical Magic 2pm, 7pm Step-mom 2.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Very Bad Things 4.40pm, 9.30pm

ROMFORD ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Practical Magic 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Very Bad Things 2.25pm, 5.50pm. 8.30pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007) BR: Romford A Bug's Life 12ncon, 1.20pm, 2.20pm, 3.45pm, 4.45pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.15pm, 9pm Enemy of the State 1.40pm, 6.40pm Little Voice 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Living Out Loud 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Practical Magic 1.45pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm Shakesoeare in Love 12.20pm, 1.43pm, 4.3upm, 9.3upm, 9.13pm Shakespeare in Love 12.20pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Stepmom 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Very Bad Things 4.20pm, 9.15pm

SIDCUP ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Shakespeare in Love 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Crick-Virigin (0870-9070717) BR: Crick-lewood A Bug's Life 1pm, 2.20pm, 3.30pm. 4.40pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.30pm Enemy of the State 9.10pm 12midnight How Stella Got Her Groove Back 3pm, 6pm, 8.45pm, 11.30pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm Rush Hour 11.15pm Stakespeare in 10ve 15pm Shakespeare in Love 10pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm, 11.45pm The Siege 12midnight Stepmom 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Wery Bad Things 9.15pm, 11.45pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) Streatham Hill Living Out Loud 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm Meet Joe Black 7.15pm Shake-25om Star Trek: Insurrection

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Streatham Hill/& Brixton/Clapham Common A Bug's Life 12,15pm, 2.35pm, 4.55pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm Enemy of the State 12.50pm, 3.40pm. 6.30pm. 9.20pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Little Voice 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm Stepmom 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Very Bad Things

NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford East A Bug's Life 1,55pm Stella Got Her Groove Back 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm, 10pm Shake-speare in Love 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Stepmom 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm

UCI (0990 888990) ⊕ Surrey Quays Antz 1.50pm Babe: Pig in The City 2pm A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 2.10pm, 3.40pm, 4.30pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.20pm, 11pm Enemy of the form. 8.20pm. 11pm enemy or the State 9.20pm. Hideous Kinky 1.45pm. 4.45pm. 7.15pm. 9.45pm. 12midnight How Stella Got Her Groove Back 4pm. 6.40pm. 9.40pm Little Volce 4.50pm. 7pm. 9.15pm. The Opposite of Sex 4.15pm. 6.50pm. 9.10pm, 11.20pm The Parent Trap 2.20pm The Prince of Sex 4.15pm. 6.50pm. 9.10pm. 11.20pm. 11.2

Egypt 1.30pm Rush Hour 11.50pm, Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Stepmom 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm Very Bad Things 5pm, 7.30pm, UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sut-

ton/O Morden A Bug's Life 4.45pm. 6pm. 7pm, 8.30pm, 11pm Enemy of the State 9.30pm, 12midnight Little Voice 2.45pm, 12midnight Little Voice 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.15pm, 11.15pm Practical Magic 7.10pm Saving Private Ryan 4.30pm Shakespeare in Love 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.45pm, 11.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4.30pm Starmann 3.15pm 4.30pm Stepmom 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9pm, 11.45pm Very Bad

CORONET (0181-888 2519) @ Tumpike Lane A Bug's Life 4pm. 6.30pm. 8.40pm Little Voice 4.15pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Very Bad Things 3.55pm, 6.15pm,

ODEON (08705 050007) O Uxbridge A Bug's Life 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.45pm Stepmom 1.20pm. 4pm. 6.35pm. 9.15pm

WALTHAMSTOW ABC (0870-9020424) • Waltham stow Central A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.35pm Little Voice 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm

WALTON ON THAMES WALTON ON THAMES
THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932252925) BR: Walton on Thames
Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 6pm,
8.35pm Stepmom 2.50pm. 5.45pm, 8.15pm

ODEON (08705 050007) BR/O Wimbledon/O South Wimbledon A Bug's Life 1.45pm, 4.10pm. 6.30pm. 8.50pm Bulworth 11.25pm Enemy of the State 11.05pm Little Voice 2pm. 4.15pm. 6.30pm, 8.50pm Practical Magic 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm sh Hour 11.25 Shake Love 12.20pm, 2.55pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm, 11.10pm Stepmom 2.30pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm WOODFORD

ABC (0181-989 3463) ← South Woodford A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Little Voice 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm

MICOLIMICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal A Bug's Life 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Very Bad Things 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

WOOD GREEN NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) On Turnpike Lane AA AB Laut Chalata 3.30pm, 7.15pm Zakhm 10.45pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place, SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) A la Vie, a la Mort (NC) 6.30pm Le Beau Serge (15) 8.45pm

ICA The Mail, SW1 (0171-930 3647) A Scene at the Sea (Ano Nat-su, Ichiban Shizukana Umi) (NC) 5pm. 9pm The Thief of Baghdad (U) 6.30pm Appetite (NC) 7pm Tales of Hoffman (PG) 9.15pm

NFT South Bank, SE1 0171-928 3232 La Belle et la Bete (PG) 2.30pm The 39 Steps (1935 Version) (PG) 6.15pm Rush Hour (15) 6.30pm The Scarlet Empress (PG) 7.30pm Scaramouche (NC) 8.30pm Satan's Brew: Fassbinder

PHOENIX High Road, N2 (0181-444 6789) Hideous Kinky (15) 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place, WC2 (0171-437 8181) The Negotlator (15) 1pm The Eel (18) 4pm Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18) 6.20pm Blade (18) 9pm The Rocky Horror Picture Show (15)

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road, W6 (0171-420 0100) Trust (15) 6.45pm + Henry Fool 8.35pm **WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High**

Street, Brentford, Middlesex (0181-568 1176) Bulworth (18) 1.30pm, 8.30pm Antz (PG) 6.45pm **DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503)**

Two Girls and a Guy (18) 2.45pm, 7pm Hideous Kinky (15) 4.45pm, 9pm La Doice Vita (18) 11.15pm

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Hideous Kinky (15) 6pm, 8.30pm Pecker (18) 6.05pm, 8.20pm

ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) Classe de Nelge (Class Trip) (NC) 1pm, 7pm Hideous Kinky (15) 3pm, 9.15pm The Opposite of Sex (18) 5pm Hana-Bi (18) 11.30pm

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-9666) Pecker (18) 6.15pm, 8pm

To Have and Have Not (PG) 7.30pm CHICHESTER NEW PARK FILM CENTRE (01243-786650) Star Trek: Insurrection (PG) 6pm Enemy of the State (15)

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Funny Games (18) 5.45pm Halloweep: H20 (18) 11.15pm Little

CINEMA

COUNTRYWIDE

ABC EAST STREET (01273-327010); A Bug's Life (U); How Stella Got Her Groove Back (15);

The Parent Trap (PG); Shake ODEON (08705-050007); A Bug's Life (U): Little Voice (15): The Op-posite of Sex (18): Practical Mag-ic (12); The Prince of Egypt (U); Shakespeare in Love (15); Step-

Vikidin (U341-355143); Antz (FO); Babe: Pig in the City (U); A Brug's Life (U); Enemy of the State (15); Little Voice (15); The Mask of Zor-ro (PG); Meet Joe Black (12); The Parent Trap (PG); Practical Magic (12); The Prince of Egypt (U) Shakespeare in Love (15): Smal Soldlers (PG); Star Trek: Insur-rection (PG); Stepmom (12); Very

Bad Things (18) ABC (0541-560567); Antz (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U): A Bug's Life (U): Hideous Kinky (15): The Jackal (18): Little Voice (15): The Prince of Egypt (U); Shakespeare in Love (15): Small Soldiers (PG);

ODEON (08705-050007); A Bug's Life (U); Enemy of the State (15); Mulan (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Practical Magic (12); Small Sc (PG): Stepmom (12)

SWINDON CINEWORLD (01793-420710); The Adventures of Pinocchio (U); Antz (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U): A Bug's Life (U); Enemy of the State (15): Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain (U): Little Voice (15): The Mask of Zorro (PG); Meet Jo Black (12); Mehndi (PG); Les Miserables (12); Mrs Doubtfire (PG); The Opposite of Sex (18); The Parent Trap (PG); Practical Magic (12); The Prince of Egypt (U); Shakespeare in Love (15); The Siege (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Step-

mom (12): Very Bad Things (18) VIRGIN (0541-555134); Babe: Plg in the City (U); A Bug's Life (U); China Gate (NC); Enemy of the State (15): Little Voice (15): The Mask of Zorro (PG); The Parent Trap (PG): Practical Magk (12); The Prince of Egypt (U); Small Soldiers (PG); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/O Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [5][7] 3pm, £8-£27.50. iom (12); Very Bad Things

THEATRE WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today; times and prices for the week; running times include internals.
— Seats at all prices 9 — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Madnees — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

I ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS P ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dimer party which is interrupted by dysterious messages stars Felicity Kendel and Josie Lawrence. Gleigud Shaftesbury Avenue, 10171-494 5065] ⊕ Picc Crc. Monsat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £19.50-£27.50 £12.50-£17.50 (restricted visuals 130 mins. views). 130 mins.

DAMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acciaimed drama based on the life of Mozart. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/O Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £7.50-£30, 180 mins,

ANNIE Rags to riches story of the optimistic urphan. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SWI (0171-834 1317) BR/9 Victoria. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, [1] 4pm, £7.50-£32.50. 165 mlns.

ART Tom Mannion, Danny Webb, Gary Olsen in Yasamina Reza's com-edy about art and friendship. Wyn-dham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) & Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7][1] 5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins:

) BEAUTY AND THE BEAST LAYish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £18.50-£35. 150 mins. D BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Rus-

e BLCCOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musical melodrama, Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733)

• Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £11.50-532.50. 165 mins.

▶ BUDDY Musical biog-show trac-ing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) ← Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thur 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm, £10-£27, half price Friday natinees. 160 mins.

DCATS Lloyd Webber's musical ver-PCATS Lidya Weober's musical version of TS Ellot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) & Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£35. 165 mins.

O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broad-way musical about two murderous women and their nightclub act. Adel-phi Maiden Lane, WCZ (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 3pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee), 130 mins.

● THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company fast-forwards through 37 Company Last-torwards through 3/ plays. Criterion Piccadilly Circus, Wil (0171-369 1747) ⊕ Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8pm. [5] 3pm. [7] 5pm. [1] 4pm. £6-£25, Thur mats - all seats £10.

D COPENHAGEN New drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) Covent Garden. Mon-Sat

7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £15-£30. 145 miris. DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Properts. London Apolio Harn-mersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 9 (0171-416 6022) + Hamm

smith. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 150 mins. THE GLORY OF LIVING Drama set amongst the trailer parks of southern America from new playwright Rebecca Gilman. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000)

West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, £10, concs D GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film. Cambridge Eartham

Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) & [4][7] 3pm, £10-£30. 150 mins. ● AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christo pher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production

of Wilde's comedy. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4] Price Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£29.50. 165

 AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stenhen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller. Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5pm, £12-£29.50. 110 mins.

O INTO THE WOODS Sondheim and Lapine's acclaimed musical based on fairytales. Dorumar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £15-£27.50.

OTHE INVENTION OF LOVE Tom Stoppard's play about the life of po-et A E Houseman, author of The Shropshire Lod. Theatre Royal, Haymarket Haymarket, SW1 (0171-7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-

DJESUS, MY BOY Tom Conti stars in John Dowie's alternative Christmas show. Apolio Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc Circ. Tue-Fri 8pm, Sat 5pm & 8pm [1] 3pm, ends 6 Feb, £5,50-£18.50.

● KAFKA'S DICK Exic Sykes and Julia Mackenzie star in Alan Bennett's comedy about the moribund writer. Piccadilly Denman Street. W1 (0171-369 1734) ◆ Picc Circ. In rep. tonight 8pm, ends 26 Feb. £12-£30.

O LITTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EU-NUCHS Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Halliwell's drama. Comedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 8pm. [5][7] 3pm, ends 13 Mar. £7-£27.50. LORD OF THE FLIES Stage ver-

sion of William Golding's classic tale of schoolboys living on a deserted island Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £5-£16. I THE MEMORY OF WATER ALI-THE MEMORY OF MALER An-son Steadings and Julia Sawalha star-in this buching comedy about three sisters returning home for their mother's fineral Vaudeville Strand,

TRICYCLE THEATRE The Colour of Justice Dramatisation of the Stephen Lawrence case. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 4pm & 8pm, mat Wed 2pm, ends 6 Feb. £8-£13.50, concs available. Kilbum High Road. NW6 (0171-328

) LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's sprawling 19th century masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5] [7] 2.30pm, £7-£35.

MISS SAIGON Musical which re-sets the Modern Butterful tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) + Covent Garden, N Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £5.75-£35. 165 mms.

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodunnit which just keeps on running Sr Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) & Le-ic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 2,45pm, [7] 5pm, £10-£24.50, 135 mins. OKLAHOMA! Maureen Lipman stars in the National's acclaimed production of Rodgers and Hammer-

stein's cowboy versus farmhand musical Lyceum Wellington Street, WC2 (0870-606 3446/cc 606 6446) OCharing X/Embanisment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 26 June, £10-£35. O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical, Her Majesty's Haymarket. SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£35. 150 mins.

• REENT Musical inspired by La Bo-hame and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Av-enue, WC2 (07000-211221) & Holborn/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 3pm. £12.50-£32.50. 160

> RECHARD BE Robert Lindsay stars as the historical villain. Savoy Strand, WCZ (0171-836 8888/cc 836 0479) Ocharing X/Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, £10-£27.50. ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

NOTIVIET: Peter Pan Stephen Oliver's music accompanies the tale of the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up, with Michael Bryant as the Storyteller, in rep, tonight 7.15pm, ends 20 Feb. 20 Feb. NT2000: Journey's End Sam West reads from Sheriff's anguished por-trayal of life in the trenches. Tonight

LYTTELTON: Betrayal Pinter's defining work depicts a menage a trois and stars Imogen Stubbs and Douglas Hodge. In rep. tonight 7.30pm. ends 7 Apr. 90 mins.

 COTTESLOE: The Riot Nick Darke's drama from Kneehigh The-atre. in rep. tonight 7,30pm. Olivi-er & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe:

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY THE BARBICAN: The Tempest Adrian Noble directs Shakespeare's desert island fantasy. In rep, tonight 7.15pm, 165 mins.

● THE PTI: Shadows: Riders To The Sea & The Shadow of The Glen & Purgatory Triple-bill of drama by WB Yeats and JM Synge. In rep, tonight 7.15pm, ends 27 Mar. Barbican The-atre: £5-£27. The Pti: £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre. EC2 (0171-638

FTALK OF THE CITY Stephen Poiakoff's drama explores media control in the early days of TV and radio. In rep. tonight 7.15pm. Young Vic £14-£20. The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363) Ø/BR: Waterloo. £14-£20.

O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER HIL 1970s musical featuring legendary songs plus three new tracks by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Argyli Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) & Oxford Circus. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32,50. 135 mins.

) STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SWI (0171-416 6070) BR/O Vic-toria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£30. 150 mins.

I THE STREET OF CROCODILES Bruno Scultz's short stories provide the inspiration for Theatre de Com-plicite's acclaimed and absurdist drama. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040/cc 344 4444) ♣ Picc Circ. Tue-Sat 8pm, [7] 3pm, [1] 5pm, ends 20 Feb, £6-£25.

● VASSA Howard Davies directs a new stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her do trodden family. Albery St Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-369 1730) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 3pm, ends 27 Mar, £5-£29.50.

THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ⊕ Leic Sq/Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3.30pm, £5-£25. 90 mins. WEST SIDE STORY Brand new

production of Bernstein's classic musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince of Wales Coventry Street. W1 (0171-839 5972) & Leic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm. £18.50-£35. 160 mins. O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND

Lioyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name about two children who mistake an escaped convict for Jesus. Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 836 2428) & Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50. 120 mins.

● THE WOMAN IN BLACK Stage version of Susan Hill's chillingly effective ghost story. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 8pm. [3] 3pm. [7] 4pm. £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMISIDA THEATRE Certain Young Men Peter Gill's comedy of con-temporary manners looks at the sexuality and the modern man. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat Sat 3pm, ends 20 Feb. £9.50-£19.50, concs available. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) O Angel.

KING'S HEAD, ISLINGTON The Vagina Monologues Eve Ensler performs her own aclaimed off-Broadway hit. Tue-Sat 8pm, mats Sat & Sun 3.30pm, ends 6 Mar. £12-£13. Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916) D Angel/Highbury & Islington.

THEATRE ROYAL Motive Kate O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this murder mystery which, unlike the average whodumit, lacks a motive. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Thur 2,30pm concs available Thames Street (01753-853888)

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call

THEIR 1996 HIT "The Riverboat Song", is now well established as the walk-on theme for TFI Friday. But Ocean Colour Scene (right) have also contributed to Paul Weller's last two albums, supported Oasis and had three further hit albuins of their own. It may have been a struggle initially, but after a string of top 10 hits, they have finally established themselves as a major musical force, and have a string of UK tour dates for 1999. Hereford Leisure Centre, 2 Apr., Oasis Leisure Centre, Swindon 6 Apr., Mecco Ballroom, Blackpool 23 Apr.,

Caird Hall, Dundee 1 May, ticket holling 0115-912 9114 RARELY SEEN together on the stage: real-life husband and wife Prunella Scales and Timothy West star in The Birthday Party at Salisbury Playhouse. West disturbs the tranquility of a boarding house run by Scales and stage husband Steven Pacey when he gatecrashes the latter's birthday. Confrontation juxtaposed with mundane

assistant Joe Harmston. Salisbury Playhouse, Salisbury, Wiltshire (01722 320333)

domesticity serves to rub tensions raw in this classic

Pinter drama, directed by the playwright's former

BRIGHTON

BRUTON

(01223-332900)

CARDIFF

EXHIBITIONS



THEATRE

COUNTRYWIDE BRIGHTON THEATRE ROYAL Guards! Guards! Terry Pratchett's novel adapted for the stage, Mon-Turr 7.45pm, Fri & Sat 5pm & 8pm, ends 6 Feb. £7.50-£14.50, concs available Bond Street

CAMBRIDGE DRAMA CENTRE A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur Odd-ball comedy about thirtysomething women, from Gracae Theatre. Tonight 8pm. £7.50, concs £5 Covent Garden (01223-322748)

CHELTENHAM EVERYMAN THEATRE Black Dahli: Chilling psychological thriller by the author of LA Confidential. Contains shocking scenes. Tue-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8pm, ends 6 Feb. £5.50-£15 Regent

Street (01242-572573) CHICHESTER CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Abigail's Party Steven Pinder (Brookside's Max Farnham) stars in Mike Leigh's comedy. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £6.50-£21 Oaklands Park (01243-781312)

EXETER NORTHCOTT THEATRE Persuasion Adaptation of Jane Austen's last novel. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8pm, ends 6 Feb. £7-£15, concs available

MALVERN FESTIVAL THEATRE The Gin Game Frith Banbury directs Joss Ackland and Dorothy Tutin in this sensitive and farmy drama which centres around a lengthy game of Gin Rum-my. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 2.30pm. ends 6 Feb. £10-£14, concs available Grange Road (01684-892277)

MADDERMARKET THEATRE man in Mind One of Ayckbourn's blacker comedies about a woman who suffers delusions after being hit on the head by a garden rake. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £4-£6.50 St Johns Alley (01603-620917)

Bowles and Michael Maloney star in

us and in-

Anthony Shaffer's ingenious and inventive thriller. Mon-Sat 7.30pm mat Wed 2.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £3-£15.50, concs available Theatre Street (01603-630000) CKFORD PLAYHOUSE THEATRE Making Noise Quietly Robert Holman's se ries of short pieces depicting en-counters between strangers in the

shadow of war. Yonight 8pm, ends 13 Feb. E6-£13 Beaumont Street (01865-798600) POOLE ARTS CENTRE And Then There Were None Agatha Christie's whodumit set in a lonely house on a remote island, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat Wed 2.30pm, ends 6 Feb. £7.50-£11.50 Kingland Road

THE MILL AT SONNING Two Dozen Red Roses Comic love stary set in romantic Rome. Tue-Sat 8.15pm. mat Sat 2.15pm, ends 20 Feb. £21.95-£32.95 Incl dinner Sonning

SALISBURY SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE Blithe Spirit Noel Coward's comedy about a man haunted by the spirit of his dead wife. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, ends 13 Feb. £9-£15 Malt-house Lane (01722-320333)

GORDON CRAIG THEATRE On the Razzle Tom Stoppard's farce is set in 1850's Vienna, Last perf, tonight 7.45pm, £10.50-£12.50, concs available Lytton Way (01438

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON STRATFORD-UPPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Adrian Noble directs Adrian Mitchell's adaptation of the CS Lewis Narnia classic. Tonight 7.15pm, ends 27 Feb. £5-£30 Waterside (01789-295623) SWAN THEATRE A Month in the

Country Brian Friel's adaptation of Turgenev's portrait of all-consuming sexual desire. Michael Attenbor-ough directs. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 20 Ceb. 55.520 PALACE THEATRE Darkness Falls Double bill of sinister drama from Jonathan Holloway. Mon-Thur 7.45pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, ends 20 Feb

£4-£15.75 Clarendon Road (01923-

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA PALACE THÉATRE CENTRE men on the Verge of HRT Two furtysomething women discuss their situation in life. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 20 Feb. £5.50-£14.50, concs available London Road (01702-342564)

Sat 4.45pm, ends 6 Feb. £6-£25.

BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Mary Potter (1900-1981) Retrospective of the artist's largely figurative paintings. Mon, Ine fhur-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 28 Mar, free. Church Street (01273-290900) MAY FAR THEATRE Eva Meier Pre-war German cabaret songs by Weitl, Eisler and others. Konight 8pm. £15 & £20, Stratton Street, W1 (01604-233082) & Green Park.

The harpsicherdist in recital. Knight 7.30pm. £5-£11. Wigmore Street. W1 (0171-935 2141) & Bond BRUTON GALLERY Forming the Figure Including works by Rodin and Henry Mogre. Mon-Fri 10am-1pm & 2pm-5pm. ends 20 Mar, free. Stock-well House, Bruton High Street (01749-812205) Street/Oxford Circus.

PORTSMOUTH THE GUILDHALL Bourner Symphony Orchestra/Bakels Beethoven's 4th Piano Concerto with Prokofiev's 4th Symphony. Tonight 7.30pm, £5,50-£19. Guildhall Square

FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM The Society of Three: Whistler, Fantin-Latour and Alphonse Legros Exhibition of drawing and prints ex-SOUTHAMPTON amining the common stylistic ground of the three artists. Tue-Sat 10am-Vladimir Ashkenazy The virtuoso in a rare solo recital. Tonight 8pm. £20, concs £18. University Road (01703-595151) 5pm. Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 14 Feb. free. Trumpington Street

FFOTOGALLERY Josef Koudelka Photographic images in a major ex-hibition spread across four galleries. DANCE Tue-Sat 10am-5.30pm, ends 14 Feb, free. Charles Street (01222-BATH

LONDON BARBICAN ART GALLERY Africa by Africa: A Photographic View More than 200 images from sub-Sara-48844/cc 448861) Picasso and Photography: The Dark Mirror More than 300 works ex-plore the Spanish master's relationship with photography. Mon, Thur-Sat 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm. Wed 10am-7.45pm, Sun 12noon-

6.45pm, ends 29 Mar. £6, concs £4, from Mon-Fri £3 after 5pm, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 4141) + Bar-DESIGN MUSEUM Modern PURCELL ROOM Badejo Arts: Britain 1927-1939 A study on the important period after the Great War including the work of Francis Bacon, Paul Nash and Barbara Pain of Aspirations Celebration of the individuality and resilience of Hepworth, Mon-Sun 11.30am-6pm, ends 18 Jul. £5.25, concs £4

(0171-378 6055) & Tower Hill/DLR: Tower Gateway. NATIONAL GALLERY In the Light of Fra Angelico: Zanobi Strozzi Study exhibition exploring the paintings of the 15th-century artist. Ends 7 Mar, free.

Portraits by Ingres Major exhibition of paintings and drawings by the 19th-century French artist. Mon & Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Wed 10am 10pm, ends 25 Apr. £6, concs £4, Wed 7pm-10pm £4. Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-747 2885) & Charing Cross, Leicester Square.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Monet in the 20th Century Eighty paintings made in the 26 years after & Sat 9am-10pm, ends 18 Apr. £9, concs £6, child (12-18) £3, child (8-11) £1.50. Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1 (0171-413 1717) &

TATE GALLERY Turner in the Alps Works on paper made on Turner's first Alpine trip in 1802. Ends 14 Feb. In Celebration: The Art of the Country House Paintings and sculpture, including work by Canaletto, Stubbs and Holbein. Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 28 Feb, free, Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000) O Pimlico.

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM Picasso's Ladles: Wendy Ramshaw Precious-metal jewellery. Ends 15 Americas and Asia: Henri Cartier-

Bresson Lesser-known subjects by the 90 year-old photographer. Ends 12 Apr.
Silver and Syrup: A Selection from the Collection Work by leading photographers throughout history. Mon-Sun 10am-5.45pm, ends 31 Jul. £5, concs £3, under 18s/UB40/disabled/mems/after 4.30pm free. Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8441) & South Kens-

CECFORD ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM Chinese Silks Brightly coloured 18th and 19th century hangings. Ends 28

Nineteenth Century French Draw-ings Recent acquisitions alongside familiar drawings. Ends 28 Feb. The Painterly Brush Oil sketches dating from the 16th to the early 20th eenbury. Tue-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 2pm-4pm, ends 21 Mar, free, Beau-mont Street (01865-278000)

ST IVES TATE GALLERY Displays 1998-9: Partnerships and Practice Paintings and ceramics from the second half of the century. Ouoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble aculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat in the West Indies, the artist's birthplace. Mon-Sa 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY Disasters of War: Callot, Goya, Dix Selections from three artists' war etchings. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 20 Mar, free, Lichfield Street (01902-

CLASSICAL

WIGMORE HALL Paul Nicholson

(01705-824355) TURNER SIMS CONCERT HALL, SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY

USTINOV STUDIO AT THE THE-ATRE ROYAL The Lost Child Second part of the David Glass Ensemble trilogy based on Lewis Carroll's Through the Looking Glass. Tonight 7.45pm. £8.50. Sawclose (01225-

SADLER'S WELLS AT THE PEA-COCK THEATRE Pago Pena Flamenco Presents La Musa Gitana World class flamenco dance, song and with cass tamenco cance, sing and guitat. Tue-Sat 8pm, mat Sat, Sun 3pm, ends 7 Mar. £7.50-£27.50. Portugal Street, WC2 (0171-863 8222) & Holborn/Temple.

Black Britain, Tonight 8pm. £10, concs £8. South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo. SADLER'S WELLS Birmingham Royal Ballet: Edward II Violence and betrayal against a background of religious fervour, choreographed by David Bintley. Tonight 7.30pm.

LITERATURE

£7.50-£40. Rosebery Avenue, EC1

WRITERS LIVE! Romantic nove and crime writer Angela Arney joins travel writer and poet Paul Hylkand to talk about their use of different genres. Forest Arts Centre Old Milton Road (01425-612393) Tonight 8pm,

COMEDY

BRIGHTON TOMMY TIERNAN AND JASON BYRNE AT KOMEDIA Irish come-dy double bill. Tonight 10pm, Gard-ner Street (01273-277772) £8.50,

STAND UP AND BOOGIE AT JESTERS COMEDY CLUB Brendsn Riley, Jo Enright, George Egg, plus one other TBC. Tonight 8pm, Chel-tenham Road (0117-909 6655) £7.50; concs £6.50.

STEVE RAWLINGS IS LIVE AND UNSTABLE AT LEWISHAM THE-ATRE Stand-up, jugging and cabaret madness. Tonight 8pm. Rushey Green, SE6 (0181-690 0002) BR: Catford/Catford Bridge, £7, concs £5. BACKYARD COMEDY CLUB Donna

McPiail, Ben Norris, Jo Caulfield, MC Lee Burst Tonight 8.30pm, Cambridge Heath Road, E2 (0171-739 3122) & Berhnal Green, £10, AL MURRAY THE PUB LAND-LORD - LATE LOCK-IN '99 AT STAG THEATRE The triple Perrier nomi-nee pours forth. Tonight 8pm, Lon-don Road (01732-450175) £11.

CLUBS

KUNG FU AT THEKLA Breaks and beats with Ben Dubmission, DJ Pogo and Dave Smeaton. Tonight 10pm-4am, £7, concs £6. The East Mud Dock. The Grove (0117-929 3301/cc

LONDON POPSTARZ AT THE COMPLEX Britpop and Indie in the main room with 1980s trash upstains for gay men, lesbians and their friends. Tonight 10pm-4am, Parkfield Street, N1 (0171-288 1986), £8, £6 w/flyer, £5 before 11am £5 before 11pm.

JAZBAH AT THE SOUARE ROOM Keith, Abbey and Aitch B (Soul II Soul) spin acid jazz, Afro-Latin, soul and hip hop. Tonight Topm-3.30am, Letester Square, WC2 (0171-738 6527) & Letester Square/Piccadil-ly Circus, 55, 53 baffars, 10.22adilly Circus, £5, £3 before 10.30pm.

EVENTS

CREATIVE STITCHES AND PAS-TEMES Exerything for the needlecraft enthusiast. Brighton Centre Kings Road (0870-900 9100) Ends 7

Feb. phone for details. INDEPENDENT TRAVELLER'S WORLD '99 Information and advice on all aspects of travelling, including transport, accommodation and working abroad. London Arena Limeharbour, Isle of Dogs E14 (0171-538 1212) DLR. Cross Harbour, Ends 7

Feb, adv £5, £6 FESTIVAL OF AUDIO AND VISU-AL ARTS Paintings and sculpture, opera, cabaret and jazz, raising money for the Passage House Appeal and the Greater London Fund for the Blind. May Fair Inter-Continental Stratton Street W1 (01604-233082)

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Green Park. Ends 6 Feb. phone for details. LITERACY IN FOCUS Book exhibition with a full programme of semi-nars, showensing the books and materials to support schools' literacy programmes. Olympia 2 Ham-mersmith Road W14 (0171-385 1200) & Earls Court Olympia. 10am-

MUSIC

BRIGHTON THE FAMILY WAY Kitsch crooning and indic joude. The Core Club at The Brighton Charter Hotel Kings Road (01273-326848) Tonight 10pm. £3-£3.50.

CHA CHA COHEN Jacqui Dulany fronts a sassy transatlantic indie hicle. The Louisiana Wapping Road (0117-926 5978) Tonight 8pm, phone for prices.

ROBBIE WILLIAMS, THE DIVINE COMEDY, THE SUPERNATURALS

movie pizazz from the post-boyband entertainer. Cardiff International Arena Mary Ann Street, Buterown (01222-224488) Tonight 7.30pm, £18.50. SUZI QUATRO, ALVIN STARDUST.

THE RUBETTES Triple-decker 1970s

nostakria tour. Central Theatre High

Street (01634-403868) 6pm & LAURYN HILL The Fugees singer showcases her gold solo album, The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill, Brix-

HEATHER NOVA, NAOMI Bermi dan singer-songwriter in the Tori Amos and Sheryl Crow idiom. University of London Union Malet Street WC1 (0171-664 2030) Goodge Street. Tonight 8pm.

MUSIC

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK NOUVELLE CUISINE Austrian avant jazz from Christoph Cech and Chris-tian Muhlbacher. University Hall Claverton Down (01225-463362/cc

826777) Tonight 7,30pm, £8, concs

GILLIAN WELCH AND DAVID

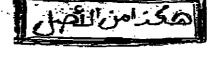
RAWLINGS Folk-country due show-case their acclaimed album, Hell Among The Yearlings. Hen & Chick-en Pub Theatre North Street (0117-9537735) Tonight 8pm, £9 CAMBRIDGE JASON REBELLO TRIO Edectic con-

temporary pianist. Kettle's Yard Castle Street (01223-352124) Tonight 8pm, £12, mems & concs GRUPO FOLIA Samba and more from percussionist Bosco d'Oliveira. Blackheath Halls Lee Road SE3 (0181-463 0100) BR: Blackheath.

Tonight 8.30pm, £12, concs £10. NILS LANDGREN FUNK UNIT Star Swedish funk and fusion quartot, Piz-za Express Jazz Qub Doon Street W1 (0171-439 8722) → Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 9pm, £15. THREE'S A CROWD Actorly colouret

featuring Patricia Ho.ige. Pizza on the Park anguistandge SW1 (0171-235 5273) & Hyde Park Corner. Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm, £20, £18 adv. CEDAR WALTON Vetrean Texan neobop pionist, Ronnie Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747) ♦ Leicester Square. Tonight 9.30pm. £20, mems £8

BEAT DIS BIG BAND Contemporary jazz and Afro-Latin styles from promising 14-piece orchestra. The labernacle Powis Square Will (0171-565 7800) ◆ Westbourne Park, Tonight 8pm, £6, concs £4,



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FRIDAY RADIO

RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM) 6.30 Zoe Bal 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeat. 6.00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection. 9.00 Judge Jules. 1100 Westwood - Radio 1 Rap Show. 2.00 Fabio and Groovender. 4.00 - 7.00 Emma B.

RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Alex Lester. 7.30 Wake Up to Wodan, 9.30 Ken Bruce, 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 Sean Hughes. 7.00 Morley at the Musicals. See Pick of the Day 7.30 Friday Night Is Music Night. 9.35 Frankenstein. 9.30 Listen to the Band. 10.00 David Jacobs. 11.00 Believe It or Not. See Pick of

6.00 Lata Shanna. RADIO 3 (902-924MHz FM) **6.00** On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week **11.00** Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Liszt 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Con-

the Day 12.00 Lynn Parsons. 4.00 .

2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Music Restored. 4.45 Music Machine Already pop music in the 1990s has recreated the sound and fashions of the 1960s, 70s and 80s. But where is the new sound of the nineties? Many commentators are angry at the waves of nostalgia but still recognise that the 1990s has been an important decade for pop. Tommy Pearson talks to Caitlin Moran and Colin Larkin.

5.00 in Tune. Sean Rafferty is joined by flamenco guitarist Paco Pena, whose new dance drama, 'La musa gitana', based on the life of the Andalucian painter Julio Romero de Torres, opened this week in London. Music includes 605 Mozart: Overture 'Don Giovanni'. BBC Scottish SO/Andrea Quinn. 640 Copland: Four Dance Episodes (Rodeo). 7.30 Performance on 3. Live from the Music Hall, Aberdeen. Conductor Osmo Vanska, Elisabeth Batiashvili

(violin). James MacWillan: The Confession of Isobel Gowdie. Beethoven: Violin Concerto in D. 8.40 News from North Britain. Five

PICK OF THE DAY

THERE'S A welcome repeat for Sheridan Morley makes the Flat Head (11am R4), in which she contrasts the lives of her of American political life. Romany ancestors with those of today's travellers. Her roving

(7pm R2), the theatre critic

new stories from Scotland.

phony No 1

they need them.

11.30 Jazz Century.

(924-946MHz FM)

selon pli.

RADIO 4

6.00 Today.

3: 'Coloured Lights', by Leila

Abouteta. For a young journalist

working for the World Service, the

ries of life - and death - in Sudan.

Christmas lights of shop windows in

London spark off a series of memo-

9.00 Concert, part 2 Sibelius: Sym-

9.50 Postscript. Patrick Wright talks

figures on the cultural scene who are

distinguished by their originality and

leading publisher of the avant-garde

imagination. 5: Marion Boyars: A

since 1960, Marion Boyars intro-

duced British readers to Georges

Bataille, Michael Ondaatje and Ivan

Dich. She discusses how she has

fought to bring new ideas to audi-

ences who do not always think that

10.10 BBC Symphony Orchestra. Conductor Martyn Brabbins, Valdine

Anderson (soprano), Boulez: Pti

12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

9.00 NEWS; Desert Island Discs.

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

11.30 The Oldest Member.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

9.45 Serial: Best American Essays.

11.00 NEWS; Great-Grandad Had a

Flat Head. See Pick of the Day (R)

to five unsung, witty and engaging

investigation takes her to Barnet Believe It or Not (11pm R2), Horse Fair and Peterborough, where she chats to her aunt.

the novelist Louise Doughty's first of six forays into the world feature Great-Grandad Had a of stage musicals. Today's programme looks at treatments Trevor Barnes' examination of

serious theological questions, ponders the existence of the Devil Toyah Willcox (right), of all In Morley at the Musicals people, has something to tell us. DOMINIC CAVENDISH

1.00 The World at One.

1.30 Puzzle Panel. 2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

3.00 NEWS; Loggled On.

3.30 A View with a Room. 3.45 This Sceptred Isle.

4.00 NEWS; Open Book.

6.00 Six O'Clock News.

6.30 The Ghost of Number Ten. A

six-part political farce by Steve Nal-

Ion and Turan Ali. 5: Here Come the

Grooms'. When a gay junior minister

boviriend, the prime minster comes

Europe to recognise their marriage

735 Front Row. Mark Lawson with

7.45 Speaking for Themselves. Ten

dramatised excerpts from the letters

of Britain's great wartime leader and

his wife Clementine, taken from the

newly published collection edited by

their daughter, Mary Soames. With

Alex Jennings as Winston, Sylvestra

le Touzel as Clementine, and Helen

Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Wal-

Dennis Skinner MP; the Rev Michael

vanagh, political editor of 'The Sun'.

Santer, Bishop of Birmingham; Sir

Patrick Maynew, and Trevor Ka-

sall, West Midlands, by panellists

Bourne as the narrator, Part 5.

8.00 NEWS: Any Questions?.

in British law. With Maggie Steed,

Mark Witiams, Steve Nation, Jan

Ravens and Andrew Wincott.

7.00 NEWS; The Archers.

the arts programme.

under pressure from home and from

gets married to his Swedish

4.30 The Message.

5.00 PM.

5.57 Weather



8.45 Letter from America Alistair Cooke with another slice of Ameri-215 Afternoon Play: Say It with 9.00 NEWS; The Friday Play: Emer-

gency, By Robin Glendinning, During the Second World War, or 'the emergency', as the Irish call it, a German captain lands in Ireland and has many comic and bizarre adventures trying to recruit the help of the IRA to invade Britain. With Patrick O'Kane. Stella McCusker and Alan Barry, Director Roland Jaquarello. 10.00 The World Tonight. With

Robin Lustig. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Sound of Trumpets. The political shenanigans in the constituency of Hartscombe and Worsfield South

come to a climax in this final episode from John Mortimer's novel, Will Lord Titmuss still be king of his local area, or has his crown been usurped? Reader Rik Mavail.

11.00 NEWS; Late Tackle. Eleanor Oldroyd and guests take a look at the week in sport and preview the Five Nations rugby championship. 11.30 Front Page Sport. 12.00 News.

12.30 The Late Book: Lemona's Tale. By Ken Saro-Wiwa (5/10). The shady world of supply contracts and the single girl. 12.48 Shipping Forecast.

100 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 Leisure Update. 5.56 - 6.00 Weather.

(198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 An Act of Worship. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headines; Shipping Forecast 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 6.00 Today in Parliament.

RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12-00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra.

RADIO 4 LW

Green and his studio guests discuss the week's sporting issues. Plus updates and commentary from Bristol City v QPR in Division One. 10.00 Late Night Live. Insight and comment on the day's big issues with Brian Hayes. Including at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight.

7.30 Alan Green's Sportsnight. Alan

LOO Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM (1000-1019MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight.

7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths. VERGIN RADIO

/1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Mark Forrest. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott, 7.00 Wheels of Steel, 11.00 Janey Lee Grace. 2.00 - 6.00 Steve Power.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW)

1.00 The World Today. 1.30 Meridian (Books). 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 The World Today, 3.20 Sports Roundup. 3.30 World Business Report. 3.45 Insight. 4.00 The World Today. 4.30 Weekend 5.00 The World Today. 5.30 - 6.00 My Century.

TALK RADIO 6.00 David Banks and Nick Ferrari. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 1.00 Anna Raeburn, 3.00 OK to Talk. 5.00 The SportZone. 8.00 Jackie Mason -Live from New York. 10.00 Dave Barrett's Phone-In with the Midnight Psychic, 2.00 - 6.00 Mike Dickin.

(2986105). 10.20 Ruby Wax Meets... Heidi

Fleiss (5477766). **11.00** The Bill (6833143).

11.30 The Bill (2348768). 12.00 Dr Who Omnibus (6256896). 3.00 - 7.00 Shop-

6.00 Thry and Crew (37030143), 6.20

Johnson and Friends (83947414). 6.30

Philbert the Frog (12028501). 6.40 Tiny

s (84475056). **6.45** Greedyseurus

and the Gang (84474327). 6-50 Polka Dot

Shorts (84455292). **7.00** Practical Parenting (5114292). **7.05** Professor Bubble

(8755476), 7.30 Calliou (1103056), 7.35

Bug Alert (7909389). 7.55 Practical Par-

(1960105) 8.30 Callou (8231921) 8.35 Tiny and Crew (5504327) 8.50 Practical Parenting (7844786) 9.00 Can't Cook,

Roseanne Show - Highlights (3539308).

(5895872). 10.50 Maury Povich (7459124)

(9774921). **3.10** Living Room (2867563).

4.00 Michael Cole (8878921), 4.50 Rolonda (5287673), 5.40 Ready, Steedy,

Cook (5479698), 6.15 The Jerry Springer

enting (4445308). 8.00 Barney and

Friends (4455785). 8.25 Babaloos

Won't Cook (5282969). 9.30 The

10.00 The Jerry Springer Show

ping with Screenshop (6698964).

LIVING

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

DURING HIS signal victory at Wijk aan Zee, Gary Kasparov won no fewer than eight of the 13 games. Tve already focused twice on the masterpiece against Veselin Topalov but several of the others were also excellent, especially his win in the penultimate round against Peter Svidler, who before this game even had a plus score - a win and two draws – against him.

As Kasparov explained in the press conference after the game, he had reserved this novelty in a line which he has "...been analysing since 1995", especially for Svidler, preferring to play 1 e4 against his other potential Grunfeld customer, Loek Van Wely.

With 5 Qb3 he resuscitated a venerable variation, which before this game was somewhat in the doldrums but "is now back in business". 11 Be3 is a novelty instead of the usual 11 Qxe6+. "My 11th was a positional move. The idea is to respond to 11 ... Nf6 with 12 a4 and to 11 ... Nb6 with 12 h4."

Kasparov admitted that the excellent 15 Rd1! "was found by the computer".

"17 ...h6 was "the only reasonable move: 17 ...hxg6 "would have lost by force after 18 Qc2". The cleanest I myself could find

was 18 ...Qe8 19 Bd3 dxc3 20 Bxg6 Qf8 21 Bh7+ Kh8 22 Rd4! when a) 22 ...Bxd4 23 Bg8+ Kg7 24 Rg1+ Kf6 25 Qe4 Bxf2+ 26 Kxf2 Qh6 27 Qd4+ Kf5 28 Bh7+ Qxh7 29 Qe4+ Kf6 30 Oxh7 wins: b) 22 Rd4 e5 23 Rdh4 Qf6 24 bxc3!? Rb8 25 Qb3 e6 26 Rg4 Nd5 27 Be4+ Kg8 28 Rhg1 Rb7 29 Bxd5 exd5 30 Qxd5+ Kf8 31 Qc5+ etc.

18 Rh5!! was Kasparov's best 16 Bxd4 cxd4

move of the game: "Over the board I found 18 Rh5, which I think is very strong, because Black cannot put his Knight on the d5-square now, White has to push. If Black has time to get counterplay, he is all right. Co-ordination is the most important factor in this position. Now he is virtually forced to take the g6 pawn."

Instead of 21 ...Qf7: "If 21 ...Qf6, I take with the Rook on d4. This is very important. And after 21 ... Qf5, I can play 22 f4 and put my Queen on g3."

It seems that 26 ... Rc5? was the decisive error: "26 ... Nd5 was the right defence, after which there is no clear cut, direct win for White. But now, after 26 ... Rc5? 27 Ne2 both Svidler and I recognised that the game was over."

At the end, not only was Kasparov the exchange up, but he also had a withering attack. Svidler had had

> White: Gary Kasparov Black: Peter Svidler Wiik aan Zee (Round 12) Grunfeld Defence

1 d4 Nf6 17 hxg6 h6 18 Rh5!! Qe8 2 c4 g6 19 Ne2 Qxg6 3 Nc3 d5 4 Nf3 Bg7 20 Rh1 Kh8 5 Ob3 dxc4 21 Rg1 Of7 6 Qxc4 0-0 22 Nxd4 Nd5 7 e4 a6 23 Od3 Bd7 24 Qe4 Rc8 8 e5 b5 9 Ob3 Nfd7 25 Bd3 Nf6 26 Qh4 Rc5? 10 e6 fxe6 11 Be3 Nb6 27 Ne2 Nd5 12 h4 Nc6 28 Rg6 Qf8 13 h5 Rxf3 29 Qe4 Qf7 14 gxf3 Nxd4 30 Kd2! Nf6 15 Rd1 c5 31 Oe3 1-0

BRIDGE

ON THIS deal from match-play, one South had what can only be described as a death wish. His counterpart, on the other hand, could see no problem on the hand. In the odd way that these things go, it was the team of the unsuccessful declarer who ran out comfortable winners of the match.

The bidding and opening lead were the same at both tables -South opened One Spade, West overcalled with Two Clubs and after some preliminaries, North raised to game and West led the ace and another heart against Four Spades.

It seemed fairly clear that West was angling for a heart ruff. With no great enthusiasm one South won in hand and simply led a trump. Now it was easy for the defence - East won, gave his partner the expected ruff, and now West exited safely with a diamond. In the fullness of time, when the club finesse failed, declarer lost a fourth trick and the contract.

At the other table. South was more far-sighted. Correctly he judged that it would be dangerous to play trumps immediately and he started with the ace and king of diamonds and then ruffed a diamond, before playing a trump. As before, East won, but now had a problem. Would it be better to lead a club or

No.3838 Friday 5 February

♦Q 10 7 4 ♥KJ6 OAK92 **\$52** West **East ◆**52 **◆**A3 **998752** ♥A3 **Q 10 8 OJ753 ♦**KJ10973 **♣**84 South **◆**KJ986 **90 104**

North-South game;

dealer South

North

give his partner the required heart ruff? He thought for so long that South, tired of waiting, faced his cards and claimed. On a club return, he explained, he would win with the ace, draw trumps, and gracefully concede a club. If, on the other hand, East gave his partner the expected ruff, then West, on lead, would have to lead a club into South's tenace. His claim was a little premature - just conceivably West might have held a fourth diamond or even a third trump but all was well and his opponents had to concede.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

Sigourney Weaver (right).

been as Ripley, the indomitable

space traveller battling the

JAMES RAMPTON

PICK OF THE DAY

6.00 Cloak and Dagger (1984) (16698). 8.00 Calm at Sunset (1996) (36105). 10.00 One Fine Day (1996) (71105). 12.00 It Takes Two (1995) (59056), 2.00 Cloak and Dagger (1984) (12476), 4.00 THE POPULARITY of the Russian of his responsibilities to the Calm at Sunset (1996) (4308), 6.00 lt Takes Two (1995) (25940), 8.00 One Fine president, Boris Yeltsin, who is parliament with which he is profiled tonight on Biography always warring. Day (1996) (37785). 10.00 Vampire in (9pm History Channel), has Brooklyn (1995) (221414), 11.45 The Juror (1996) (337834), 1.40 Desperate Trail decreased markedly since his featured on today's Femmes (1994) (231254). 3.15 - 6.00 Working Girl heyday when he mounted a tank Fatales (8pm Sky Moviemax), (1988) (71962457). in the streets of Moscow to see has carved a niche for herself as SKY MOVIEMAX off an attempted come. Weakened an archetypal strong actress. by a grave financial crisis, illness Perhaps her seminal role has

750 Back to the Planet of the Apes (1974) (33742209). 9.00 Back to the Beach (1987) (58327). 11.00 Time to Say Goodbye (1997) (41259). 1.00 All the Winters That Have Been (1997) (52143). 3.00 Back to the Beach (1987) (33389). 5.00 Time to Say Goodbye (1997) (50124). 7.00 p:review (7259). 7.30 UK Top Ten (1358). 8.00 Femmes Fatales (3679). See Pick of the Day. 8.30 Movie Magic (5414). 9.00 ice (1998) (81018). 10.30 Contagious (1997) (25211). **12.00** Spill (1996) (52631). **1.30** Carriers (1997) (972099). **3.0**5 Deadlocked: Escape from Zone 14 (1992) (259849). 4.40 - 7.00 All the Winters

SKY CINEMA 4.00 The Big Clock (1948) (7853501). 6.00 Seware, My Lovely (1952) (1215921). 8.00 To Each His Own (1946) (1227766). 10.00 Brubaker (1980) (87642853). 12.40 The French Connection II (1975) (5276475). 2.05 The Sniper (1952) (3004588). 3.40 Two for the Road (1967) (2465419). 5.20

That Have Been (1997) (1724-186).

FILMFOUR 6.00 Short Attention Span Cinema (8615018). **8.00** Barcelona (1994) (66658582). **9.40** Le Reveil (2647501). 10.00 Metropolitan (1990) (4286834) 12.00 Rabid (1977) (2519235), 1.35 Un Fic (1972) (1940709), 3.40 - 6.00 Point Break (1991) (59647380). DISCOVERY CHANNEL 4.00 Rex Hunt Specials (3753969). 4.30 Walker's World (3712853), 5.00 Wix Walker's World (3742553), 3204 History's Turning Points (3733105), 6.00 Animal Doctor 47300ts), 6.30 Adventures of the Quest (8568766), 7.30 Beyond 2000 (3743582).

8.00 Outback Adventures (4898211). 8.30 Uncharted Africa (4884018). 9.00

Snow Coaches (6455785). 10.00 The

Gray (6454070) 1,00 History's Turning

Weapons of War (9930308). 12.00 Barry

Bounty Hunter (6458872). #LOO

ratings are at their lowest ebb since he took on the job in 1991. scarily unconquerable monster He is now only clinging onto in the Alien cycle of films. power by virtue of ceding many

and a fondness for drink, Yeltsin's

Points (8982588). 1.30 Wheel Nuts (3123419), 2.00 Close. SKY ONE 7.00 Count Duckula (84230). 7.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show (94259). 8.30 Hollywood Squares (40747). 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (50834). 10.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (69921). 11.00 Guiltyl (89785). 12.00 Jermy Jones

(81582). 1.00 Mad about You (83501). 1.30 Jeopardy (78016). 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (47211). 3.00 Jenny Jones (46330), **4.00** Guiltyl (99037), **5.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (1834), **6.00** Mar ned with Children (5766). 6.30 Friends (6018). **7.00** The Simpsons (2563). **7.30** The Simpsons (8230). 8.00 Beat the Crusher (40259), 9.00 Surviving the Moment of Impact 3 (20495), 10.00 Cops (23582). 11.00 Friends (90766). 11.30 Star Treic Deep Space Nine (55501). 12.30 The Commistr (14322). 1.30 -

7.00 Long Play (7813490). SKY SPORTS 1 6.30 Futures in Sport (80940), 7.00 World Wresting Federation Superstant (67899). 8.00 European Tour Golf (78105). 10.00 Racing News (71292), 10.30 Foot ball League Review (60389), 11.30 What a Decade (25476), 12.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (39230). 12.30 Sports Unlimited (64105) 1.30 European Tour Golf (67872). 3.30 Ford Golf USA (11150) 5.30 What a Decade (7143). 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (58495), 7.00 Trans World Sport (66211).

8.00 European Tour Golf (53747). 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (65582). 11.00 Hold the Back Page (79150). 12-00 Sky Sports Centre (15506). 1.00 World Wresti Federation Raw (39167). 3-00 Hold the Back Page (25235). 4.00 Friday Night Football Bristol City v QPR (53167). 5.30 . 6.00 Totalsport (49322).

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00 Racing News (9043691), 7.30 Inter-national Cricket Australia vs England (6427211). **11.00** The Rugby Club (4093196). **12.00** Survival of the Fittest (5413679), 12.30 International Cricket South Africa v West Indies (7415766). 4.00 International Cricket (9411495), 4.30 International Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (3100872). 8.00 International Cricket (5557124). 10.00 Ford Golf USA (455582). 12.00 Friday Night Football Bristol City vs OPR (1470254). 1.30 International Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (4076457). 3.00 International Cricket (5794)88), 5.00 Moto-plus (4589)86). 5.30 - 6.00 Extreme Selling (7189254).

SKY SPORTS 3 11.30 Futures in Sport (17612834), 12.00 Transworld Sport (87254105). 1.00 Fish TV: Tight Lines (87263853). 2.00 Bobby Chariton's Football Scrapbook (40658679), 3.30 Spanish Football 5651563). **5.30** Moto-plus (87158696) 6.00 Extreme Saling (87148211). 6.30 inside the PGA Tour (87139563). 7.00 Friday Night Football Bristol City vs QPR

(78140560). 10.00 World Wrestling Feder ation Raw (17615921). 12.00 Close.

EUROSPORT 7.30 Golf (81619), 8.30 Snowboarding (20582), 9.00 Winter X Games (94292). 10.00 Racing Line (29619). 11.00 Luge (83259), **1.00** Snowboarding (27969), **1.30** Tennis (3941414), **5.00** Alpine Sking (17394), **6.30** Car on Ice (3196), **7.00** Athletics (68679), **8.00** Alpine Sking (77327). 9.00 Luge (39679), 9.30 Alpine Skiing (53308), 10.00 Boxing (50650), 11.00 Playlife (34124). **11.30** Winter X Games (36489). **12.30** Close.

bours (4153105). 7.55 EastEnders Neighbours (78957016). 12.25 East-Enders (7824969). 1.00 Juliet Bravo 2point4 Children (3392872). 7.40 The The Detectives (6094921). 9.00 The Thin Blue Line (8703211). 9.40 Knowing Me, Knowing You., with Alan Partridge

11.40 Living Issues (68572143). 12.10 Animal Rescue (22725495). 12.40 Rescue 911 (96985834). 1.50 Special Babies (14091281). 1.40 Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction (66686747), 2.10 LA Law

7.00 Crossroads (9923018). 7.30 Neigh-(5275143), 8.30 The Bill (8258056), 9.00 The Bill (8249308), 9.30 When the Boat Comes in (1363245), 10.30 Rhoda (8238292), 11.00 Delas (4211495), 11.55 (9367394). **2.00** Dalles (5952230). **2.55** The Bill (5471747). **3.25** The Bill (9864037) 3.55 EastEnders (8040698). 4.30 Rhoda (3744211) 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (4880292). 6.00 Dynasty (3767150), 7.00 The Cornedy Alternative Cornedy Alternative: Dad's Army (7516414), 8.20 The Cornedy Alternative

Show (3116143), 7.05 Rescue 911 (2546259), 7.35 Animal Rescue (2870834). **8.40** Maury Povich (4029747). 9.00 Film: All She Ever Wanted (1996) (1224679), 11.00 The Sex Zone (7170360). 12.00 Close.

WCW Thunder (89780563), 1.15 Where the Spies Are (1965) (89703438), 3.15 Shaft in Africa (1973) (42004612). **5.00** PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

9.00 WCW Nitro (88937785). 11.35

7.00 Clueless (8143), 7.30 Grace under Fire (2834), 8.00 Ellen (4563), 8.30 Newsradio (3698). 9.00 Cybill (35853). 9.30 Vic Reeves' Big Night Out (59582) 10.00 The Rutles (48722). 11-30 The Larry Sanders Show (75018). 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman (1314 1.00 Taxi (12902). 1.30 The Critic (26693). 2.00 Dr Katz (38099). 2.30 Tibs and Fibs (17506). 3.00 Nightstand (28998). 3.30 Abbott & Costello (31186).

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

88C1 N IRELAND As BBC1 London except: 6.30 Novishne 6.30 (766). BEC1 SCOTLAND

BBC1 SCOTLAND
As BBC1 London except: 12.30 Luch
is Famh (Mouse and Mole) (26529476).
12.35 Orain agus Rannan (Song and
Rhyme) (2652977). 12.40 Padraig Post
(Postman Path (39069698). 6.00 News
(41). 6.30 Reporting Scottand; Weather
(766). 10.25 Friday Sportscane (491037).
10.55 Conference 99 (196230). 11.25
Non-Hard Tarnat (73at2a). 12.55 The In: Hard Target (19474), 12.55 The Mand-Up Show (5819631), 1.25 The Big End (8802541) 2.00 Joins BBC News 24

BBÇ1 WALES BBC1 WALES
As BBC1 London except: 6.30 Wales
As BBC1 London except: 6.30 Wales
Today (766) 10.25 Hooray Herry (491037)
10.55 Indoor Bowls (861785) 11.40 Firm:
Hard Target (567292), 130 The Stand-Up
Hard Target (567292), 150 The Stand-Up
Show (7660195) 1.40 Firm: The Undead*
Show (7660195) 1.40 Firm: The Undead* (8585525) 3.00 BBC News 24 (5292051).

ANGLIA
As Cartton except: 12.20 Angla *
News and Weather (875-1679) 1.00
Shortland Street (9715582) 1.35 Home and Away (25022389) 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5090550) 3.20 Anglia News and Weather (9606335) 5.40

News; Weather (779785). 6.00 Anglia News (582). 6.30 Off the Beaten Track (834). 10.30 Anglia News and Weather (85143). 10.40 Film: Donato and Daugh-(16543). 10.40 Fam. Dorato at 1659. 1er (62445719). 12.30 Pirate TV (38780). 1.00 Firm: State of Emergency (912457). 2.35 The Haunted Fishtank (6340457). 3.05 New Baywatch (6221902). 3.55 Tristra (4012254). 4.55 TV Nightscreen 1.00 Coronation St (20490). (88193815). 5.00 Coronation St (20490).

CENTRAL
As Cariton except: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (8754879), 1.00 Wish:
You Were Here..? (38579), 3.20 Central
News (9606835), 5.10 Shortland Street
(8445679), 5.40 News; Weather (779785).
6.00 Home and Away (698394), 6.25
Central News and Weather (958582),
10.30 Central News and Weather
(16543), 10.40 Film: Sweensy!
(9473834), 4.05 Jobinder (6425506).
8.20 Asian Eve (7656780). CENTRAL 5.20 Asian Eye (7656780).

HTY WALES As Carlton except: 10.30 This Morn-As Cartton except: 10.30 This Morning (11786016). 12.45 HTV News (735747). 1.00 Wish You Were Hara...? (36679). 1.30 Home and Away (38476). 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5090650). 3.20 HTV News (9606835). 5.10 A Country Practice (9445679). 6.00 Home and

Away (698394), **6.25** Wates Tonight (958582), **10.30** HTV News (156495), **10.45** Film: All the Right Moves (8082501), **12.30** Pirate TV (38780), **1.00** Film: State of Emergency (912457), **2.35** The Haunted Fishtank (6340457), **3.05** New Baywatch (6221902), **3.55** Trists (4012254), **4.55** TV Nightscreen (88989815), **5.00** Compation St (20490). (88193815). 5.00 Coronation St (20490).

As HTV Wales except: 1.00 Short-land Street (36579), 6.25 HTV West Weather (343650), 6.30 The West (634). MERIDIAN

MERIDIAN
As Cartton except: 10.30 This Morning (1786018), 12.15 Meridian News and Weather (7355/47), 1.00 Shortland Street (915582), 1.35 Home and Away (25022389), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show 5090650), 3.20 Meridian News and Weather (9606835), 5.30 Home and Away (9445679), 5.37 The Listings (720650), 5.40 News; Weather (779785), 6.00 Meridian Tonight (47124), 10.30 Meridian News (56495), 10.45 Dream Town (41853), 11.45 Bob Monidhouse on Campus (656124), 12.15 Beneath the Sur-Campus (656124), 12.15 Beneath the Surface - the Making of Sphere (6351544), 12.30 Pirete TV (38780), 1.00 Film: State of Emergency (912457), 2.35 The

Haunted Fishtank (6340457). **3.05** New Baywatch (6221902). **3.55** Trisha (4012254). **4.55** TV Nightscreen (88193815), **5.00** Freescreen (20490). WESTCOUNTRY

WESTCOUNTRY
As Carfton except: 40.30 This Morning (1786018), 12.15 Westcountry News (7355747), 12.27 Illuminations (6782998), 1.00 Westcountry News (9606835), 6.00 Westcountry Live (47124), 10.30 Westcountry Live (47124), 10.30 Westcountry News (156495), 10.45 The Other Side (41853), 11.35 Renegacie (479281), 12.36 Tales from the Darkside (6223812), 12.30 Prate TV (38780), 1.00 Pilm: State of Emergency (912457), 2.35 The Haunted Fishtank (8340457), 3.05 New Baywarch (6221902), 3.55 Trisha Baywatch (6221902), 3.55 Trisha (4012254), 4.55 TTV Nightscreen 88193815), **5.00** Coronation St (20490).

TORICSHERE
As Carthor axcept: 12.20 Calendar
News and Weather (8754579). 1.00 Home
and Away (96889871). 1.25 Jerry Springer
Show (4202834). 2.30 Emmerdale (781724).
3.20 Calendar News Headlines (9606835).
5.40 News; Weather (328178). 5.55 Calendar (623259). 6.30 Toright (634). 10.30
Calendar News (165143). 10.40 Firm: In
Pursuit of Honor (94133834).

TYNE TEES As Yorkshire except: 12-20 North East News and Weather (8754679). 3-20 North East News Headlines (9606835). 5-55 North East Weather (74044). 6-00 North East Tonight (7724). 10-30 North East News (165143).

As Channel 4 except: 9.00 Ysgo-ion/Schools (20032/92) 12.00 Home im-provement (29745/66), 12.30 Sesame Street (38383853), 1.00 Planed Plant (34356259), 1.30 Roots to Succ (27970037), 1.50 Film: The Virgin Queen (7808227), 4.30 Dishes (81296056), 5.00 Planed Plant (64777747), 5.30 Countdown (81287308), 6.00 Newyddion (54582230), 6.10 Heno (16485037), 7.00 Pobol y Cwm 630 Hero (18485037) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (64780211) 7.30 Newyddon (81297785). 8.00 Cefn Gwled (64708259). 8.30 Y CMb Rygbi (64785766). 9.00 Pawb aT Fam (62210209). 10.00 Brookside (604870). 10.35 Frasier (58894414). 11.05 Garham Norton... So Connected (47042230). 11.40 TEI Friday (74305817). 12.50 Streetmate (26582902). 1.20 4 Later: The Ru Paul Show (20402726). 1.50 Johnny Meets Madorna. (14918980). 2.50 4 Later: The Mod Squad (97299984). 3.50 4 Later: Vide (61868728). 4.25 Close.

DOWN

20

CONCISE CROSSWORD

Cereal crop (4) Measures of distance (5) Beast of burden (5) 10 Playhouse (7)

ACROSS

Aggressively male behaviour

12 Cárgo (4) 13 Tax collecting authority (6.7) 17 Wordless performance (4) 18 Chinese port (8)

21 Strange (7) 22 Dexterity (5) 23 Tales (5)

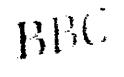
24 Musical symbol (4)

Biblical patriarch (5) Excuse (7) Change of form (13) German song (4) Take a seat (3.4) Former pupils (6) Repair (4) Fish-like vertebrate (7) 15 Deer meat (7) 16 Safe to eat (6) 17 Scoff (4) 19 Raise (5) 20 Male pig (4)

19

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Engines, 5 Homer (Indian summer), 8 Gable, 9 Cabines, 10 Relieve, 11 Then, 12 Maraud, 14 Strait, 17 Reach, 19 Brigand, 22 Naphtha, 23 Sweat, 24 Ranch, 25 Scenery, DOWN: 1 Eiger, 2 Gobbler, 3 Niece, 4 Sucker, 5 Habitat, 6 Mince, 7 Rat-a-tat, 12 Mariner, 13 Unbitch, 15 Academe, 16 U-boats, 18 Aspen, 20 Issue, 21 Ditty.



ROBERT HANKS

6.00 News; Weather (T) (414).

7.30 Top of the Pops. This week's best-selling singles, live performances and pre-chart exclusives (5) (T) (650).

COMEDY IS PARAMOUNT

THE FOLLOWING

NEWS ITEM

CONTAINS

CENES WHICH

0

MAY FIND

ARIOUS.

Spinul Tap, or evon The Rulles, but the cod rockumentary is now the de rigueur method of satirising the music biz. Channel 4 follows up its underwhelming A Young Person's Guide to Becoming a Rook Star with this mock docu-soap about the manufacture of a new "boy band" (as in Take That, Boyzone, and so on). Whether or not the boy band phenomenon can withstand a whole six episodes must remain open to question, but this is a breezy enough start. It

12.55 IIIM The Undead (Roger Corman 1957 US). Often quite surprising low-budget Corman nonsense with troubled prostitute Pamela Duncan transported back to the Middle Ages and a previous incarnation as a witch (Followed by Weather) (1) (5179761). To 2:10am.

d-Up Show (308056). 12.25 The Big End

s (R) (S) (6341414), **3.45 0** Smart on the Road (S) (T) (S) (T) (6423414), **4.30** 108), **4.55** Newsround Extra Peter (S) (T) (6205386),

5.35 Neighbours. Serah stands up to her stalker (S) (T) (148786).

7.00 Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook. Casualy actresses Claire Goose and Rebecca. Lacey challenge ohers Richard Cawley and Patrick Anthony (S) (T) (6501).

8.00 Vets in Practice. In what sounds like the first docu-sosp transfer of its kind, Flona Green plans a new oarser as a diving instructor (5) (1) (2821).

9.00 News,

COMEDY OF THE DAY

BBC2

IJIM sreathing Lessons (John Erman 1983 US). Joanné Woodward and James Garner travel from Baltimore to Pennsylvania for a funeral in this small-scal road movie based on an Anne Tyler novel (569)4768).

6.00 Th

Robet Ware. Philippa Forrester and Craig Charles introduce another batch of home-made robot enthusiasts and their competing inventions (S) (141562).

7.30 Country House. Stately home docu-soap. Lady Taylstock is forced to fire a member of the estate staff for gross misoonduct. Sounds fun (S) (T) (292).

Gimme Gimme Gimme. Tom meets a gorgeous italian, whom he attempts to impress by pretending to be a top British soap star (S) (T) (1414).

10.00 The Young Ones (R) (T) (82114).

ight. With David Aaronovitch (T) (840282).

6.20 The Simpsons. Bart's April Fool's day joke goes horrbly wrong (R) (B) (T) (110258).

7.15 Electric Circus. Showbizzy stuff with Gail Porter (8) (T) (242899).

8.30 ELIDICE Garden Stories. How gardens can refit our personalities. See Gardening Show of the Day, below (3) (T) (9696).

by Weather (1) (98360).

10.50 The 10:30 Lon lon Weekend Tonight (1) (467872).

The Dunwich Horror (Daniel Haller 1970 US). ovecraft meets the fag end of the 1960s as diabolist a Stockwell targets a student nurse (908457). Office America (47544), 2.45 Seaquest 2032 197), 3.35 The Haunted Fishtank (40463197), 4.05 (4054438), 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (20490).

5.40 Ne

6.30 Dream Tibket. Copenhagen and Madeira are the destinations in this Melanie Sykes-fronted travel show (R) (834).

7.00 Bru Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right. Yet more Brucis Bonuses, brand-new cars and big cash prizes (S) (T) (8969).

7.30 Core

8.00 Airii from with a Ine. The George Formby fan club turns up to fly Liverpool, and in Luton, Jane has her hands full an absent-minded diso jockey (S) (T) (4389).

hbours from Hell. Meet the Preston couple sed by teenegers, plus mildly depressing tales of the-garden-fence intolerance (T) (6124).

In's Worst Divers. The man whose house fell in the middle of the night when he tried to siter the , the man who wallpepered his house entirely from amples, and other stories (T) (3124).

10.00 Fresier. Martin persuades the still-unemployed and single Fresier to date Duke's daughter (S) (T) (28230).

10.30 So Graham Norton. The cheeky chappies guests are Bo Derek and Sophie Dahi (T) (138969).

11:10 King of the Hill (T) (524872), 11:40 TFI Friday (S) (815475), 12:45 4 Later: The RuPaul Show (24693), 1:15 4 Later: Late Toon – Pas à Deux (6220254), 1:25 4 Later: The Mod Squad (8856896), 2:25 Vids (3905761).

1sha (S) (T) (5672211), **10.30** This Morning (T) 8304476), **12.30** News; B304476), **12.30** News; Bather (T) (39105), **1.00** London Today (T) (36678), **30** The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (1841940), **2.18** Jame and Away (S) (T) (527853), **2.45** Dales spermarket Sweep (S) (T) (526124),

drent's ITV: Mopatop's Shop (6351788), **3.38** Motoo (2233230), **3.40** Animal Stories (R) (S) (1485), **3.50** Adam's Family The (S) (T) (5029650), Gladiators: Train 2 Win (R) (T) (159501), **4.45** in' Atcha (T) (6137259).

ve, Weekend Weather (1) (779785). ne and Away (S)₄(T) (9445679).

don Weekend Tonight. Regional news update to capital and the South-East (T) (582).

nation Street. Sally and Kevin refuse all offers tlation in the oustody hearing. And Sharon's flancé a shine to a Rovers' regular (S) (T) (178).

5.00 The Lost Gardens of Heligan. A risce of orginal owners visite the celebrated Cornish gather first time since the 1920s (R) (S) (T) (5259). 7.55 Music of the Millennium. Soul singer Alexander O'Neal picks his favourite ertist of all time (T) (270785).

8.30 Birookside. Nikid gets a flashback about the man who raped her. Jimmy Corkhill has a danier party (S) (T) (4786).

9.30 IGIOIDE Boyz Unilmited. New comedy series about the birth of a boy band. See Cornedy of the Day, below (T) (4021). 9.00 Friends. The (ancient) one where Chandler's flamboyant mother comes to New York for a visit (R) (S) (1) (6582).

3.00 IIIIII This Sporting Life (Lindsay Anderson 1963 UK). Rugby league gets the "Free Cinema" treatment in Anderson's powerful movie debut. See Film of the Day, below (17703273). To 5.55am.

TV Carlton

'V (5666786)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (24834).

Channel 4

Thannel 5

lines (T) (6456312). **3.20** London 9.00 Channel 4 Schools: Off Limits (4020037). 9.25 Schools at Work (6332898). 9.30 Eurekal (1144582). 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (1149037). 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (688577). 10.10 TVM (9392230). 10.25 Uster Unsenthed (9388037). 10.45 Enter the Maths Zone (2167414). 11.00 The Technology Programme (8424747). 11.15 Stage One (847898).

1.35 IJIM They Were Not Divided (Terence Young 1950 UK). Two soldiers – one British, one American – go through training and head for Berlin via D-Day in this uneasy mixture of documentary-styling and patriotism. With Edward Underdown and Raiph Clanton (T) (38484259). werhouse (S) (T) (4747), 12.00 Sesame Street (S) (28501), 12.30 Bewitched (R) (T) (37747), 1.00 Pet scue (S) (T) (27921), 1.30 Earthscape (90777211).

6.00 TPI Priday. Anthony Edwards and Henry I ghigered up, while musto comes courtesy of Carson and Mark Morrison (8) (45786). Mampton Court Palace (940). 4.00 Fifteen to One (R) (S) (T) (747). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (5107018). 4.56 Ricki Lake (S) (3764921). 5.30 Pet Resoue (211).

6.00 100 Per Cent. The game show without a host (S) (6523037).

8.30 Family Affairs. Pete thinks Roy is mad. Dusty is distressed when she visits the headmaster. Don't ask (S) (T) (8514389).

5.20 Sunset Beach. US soap which has to be seen to be disbelleved. Annie and Caltiin in to trace the mystery caller using Eddie's tracking equipment, but they are interrupted by Ricardo (S) (9897835).

3.30 IIIM The World's Oldest Living Bridesmaid
(Joseph L Scanlan 1990 US), Queen of the American TV
movie Donna Mills is given a rest from her usual tragic
roles to play a successful lawyer aghast to find she has

0 5 News and Sport (6703018). 7.00 WideWorld (R) (S) (T) (6178259). 7.30 Millishakel (S) (4143853). 7.35 Wimzish House (R) (3323785). 8.00 Havakazoo (R) (S) (4106259). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (S) (4198230). 9.00 Mixing It (R) (S) (T) (1898765). 9.26 Russell Grants Postcards (R) (7523037). 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6269821). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (1278414). 11470 Lesza (S) (4885037). 12.00 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (4176016). 12.30 Family Affairs (R) (S) (T) (911282). 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (6160230). 1.30 The Rossanne Show (S) (9110563). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (6366292). 2.30 Good Afternoon (1919672).

7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather, including 7.30pm (6) (T) (349105). 7.00 5 News (S) (T) (5377308).

7.30 Wild Water. Wildlife documentary about bottlenose dolphins, which are usually thought of as friendly creatures, but that's not a fish's perspective (8536501).

8,00 Was It Good for You? Holidsymskins with children attempt to undover the magic of Disney, Good luck (8) (5386056).

gardens for

8.30 Holiday Park. Keffroaravan park docu-soap (it doesn't come much classier than this). Boss Colin Saunders celebrates convincing EastEnders' actress Carol Harrison to buy a carevan (S) (T) (5365663).

9.00 IIIVI Search for Justice (Noel Nosseck 1898 US). A search for a more interesting title might have been more profitable. This over-familiar yern stars Twin Peaks actress Peggy Lipton as a mother trying to get the bottom of her daughter's death. Her marriage had broken down but was she near suche? On the her

10.50 Poltergelst: the Legacy (9417940).

11.45 1313 Hollywood Madam (Fred Gallo 1994 US). Glossy soft porn with Shannon Whirry as a high-class hooker involved in murder (8) (1156678).

3.05 IIIM Act of Vengeance (Robert Keijichlan 1984 US). A rape vicilm takes revenge (9895/506). To 4.35am

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT

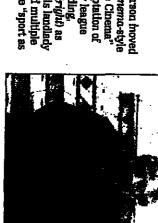


caught this gem of a series, it's about the rather than just tend their flowers, or we pagoda in the backyard; it's such an olw wonder why it hasn't been explored befort, like cookery TV, is 50 per cent person looks at what a garden says about its own designer Rosa Diaz plants dolls in her before the says about its owners.

GARDENING SHOW

FILM OF THE DAY

THIS SPORTING LIFE (3am C4) Lindsay Anderson moved from film theorising the edited the Cahiers du Cimema-style Sequence magazine) through cutting-edge, "Free Cinema" documentary-making to television. This 1983 adaptation of David Storey's novel about a north-country rugby league player was his stunning movie debut, with a brooding, Brandoesque performance from Richard Harris (right) as the knuckle-brained scrum forward in love with his landlady (Rachel Roberts). Although all sorts of unresolved multiple



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